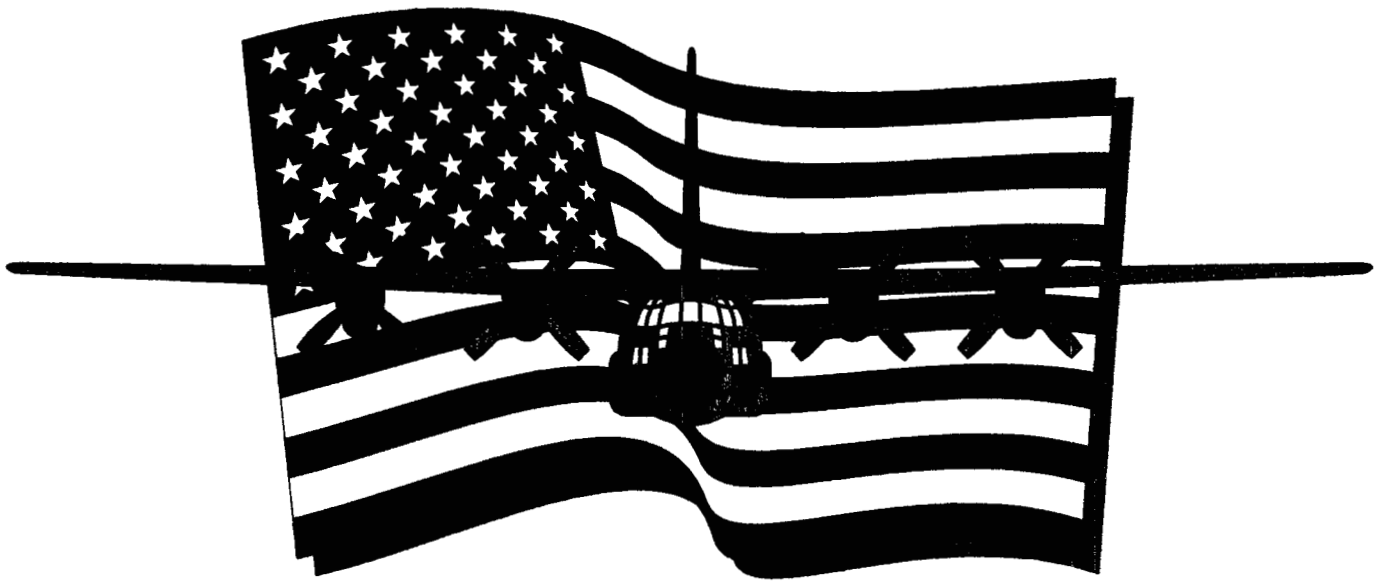
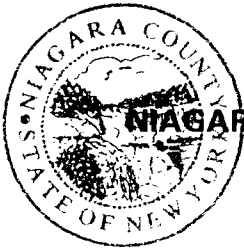


Niagara Falls Air Force Base





**NIAGARA COUNTY
LEGISLATURE
COURTHOUSE
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-2740**

SEAN J. O'CONNOR
Chairman

JAMES K. MCGINNIS
Clerk
(716) 439-7000

May 30, 1995

Commissioner James B. Davis
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Commissioner Davis:

I am writing on behalf of all of the citizens of Niagara County to request that the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission take positive action to remove the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the list of bases to be closed as part of the 1995 round of closures and realignments. Not only does the Niagara Falls ARS fill an important role in the defense posture of the Air Force, the 914th Airlift Wing is a vital component of the Niagara Community in a wide variety of ways.

The military value of the 914th Airlift Wing is apparent from the unit's presence in recent national military actions, being integrally involved in Desert Storm and Shield, Bosnia, Turkey, Somalia and Haiti. The Base has an important role in training and preparation, and provides a strong set of supportive services on an ongoing basis to other units such as the 10th Mountain Group.

The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is also significant because of its status as the last Air Reserve Station in New York State. The greatest asset of the 914th is the large pool of well-trained and highly skilled Reservists which make our Base so vital, and the vast majority of that personnel come from a close proximity to the base. Without the 914th, the nearest Air Reserve Station would be in Pennsylvania, an eight-hour round trip that undoubtedly would cause most of the Reservists to leave the program.

Finally, it should be pointed out that closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station would have a substantial negative impact on Niagara County and the Niagara Frontier. The base has the second-largest payroll in Niagara County, and the direct impact of the 914th on the County's economy is significant, nearing \$65 million.

For these reasons, we, the citizens of Niagara County and the Niagara Frontier request that the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommend the continued full operation of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and the 914th Airlift Wing.

We thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sean J. O'Connor".

Sean J. O'Connor
Chairman, Niagara County Legislature

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE RESERVE

30 May 1995

Commissioner James B. Davis
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Commissioner Davis,

On behalf of the men and women of the 914th family, I would like to personally welcome you to the Niagara frontier and the Niagara Air Reserve Station. It is our hope that your stay here is productive, informative and enlightening. Our citizen airmen, tenant units and resources stand ready to support your needs while you are here.

We are certain you will find this organization to be fully prepared to support the Air Force and the nation, whenever and wherever called. Most important, our people are professional, helpful and dedicated to the mission.

We honestly feel you will depart this base with a profound understanding of our pride in the Air Force Reserve, this installation and our home here in Western New York.

We are convinced that the 914th and the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station play a key role in the defense of our nation and the preservation of the American way of life. With the Commission's support, we will continue to perform our mission into the 21st century.



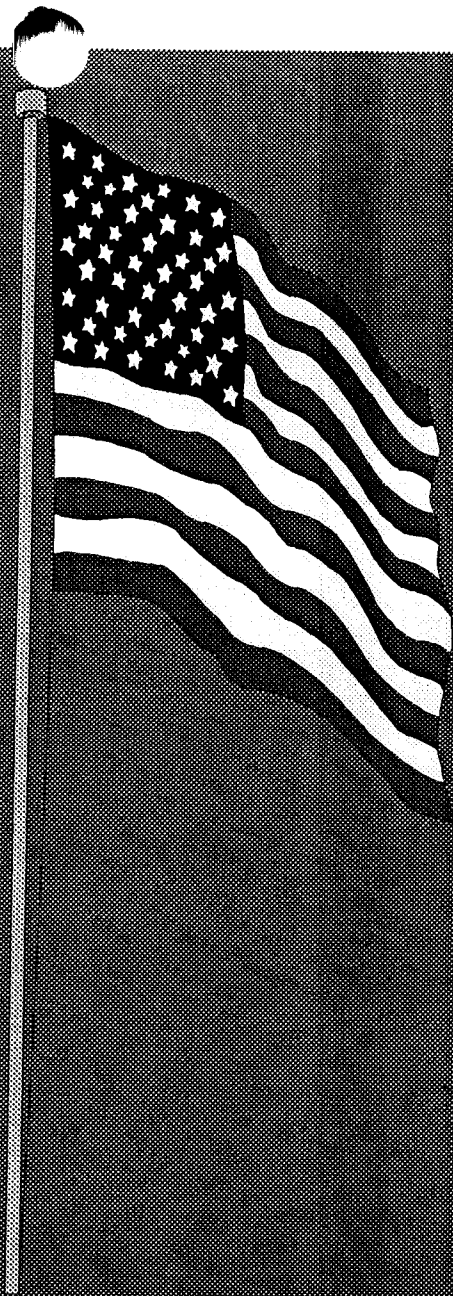
GERALD A. BLACK, COL, USAFR
Commander

Presentation by
The Niagara Home Base Alliance
to
Commissioner James B. Davis
and
Staff of the
1995 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
on the
914th Airlift Wing, USAFR
May 30, 1995

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Overview	1
Military Value	2
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Personnel, Training and Recruitment	5
Conclusions	6
Support Materials	7
Letters and Resolutions of Support	8



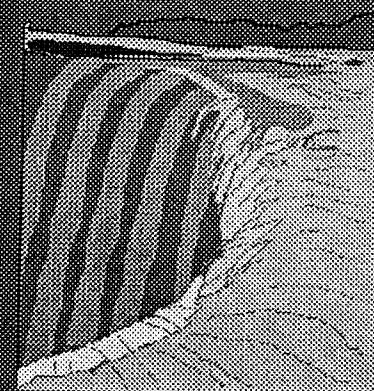


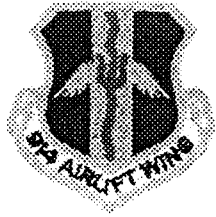
914th AIRLIFT WING

..... first in PEOPLE,

..... first in READINESS,

..... first in SERVICE.





Presentation By



The Niagara Home Base Alliance

to

Commissioner James B. Davis

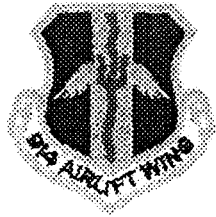
and

**Staff of the 1995 Defense Base Closure
and Realignment Commission**

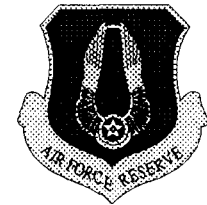
on

The 914th Airlift Wing, USAFR

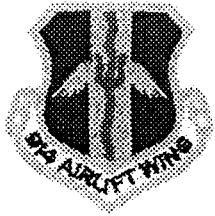
May 30, 1995



OUTLINE



- I. Introduction**
- II. Military Value**
 - People
 - Experience
 - Location
- III. Cost and Budget Issues**
 - COBRA-Related Issues
 - Corrected Data
- IV. Economic and Community Impact**
 - Niagara Falls and Niagara County
 - New York State BRAC Impact
- V. Personnel Training and Retention**
 - Recruiting Radius
 - Retention
- VI. Conclusion**



Introduction

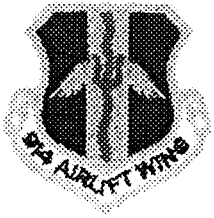


Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (ARS)

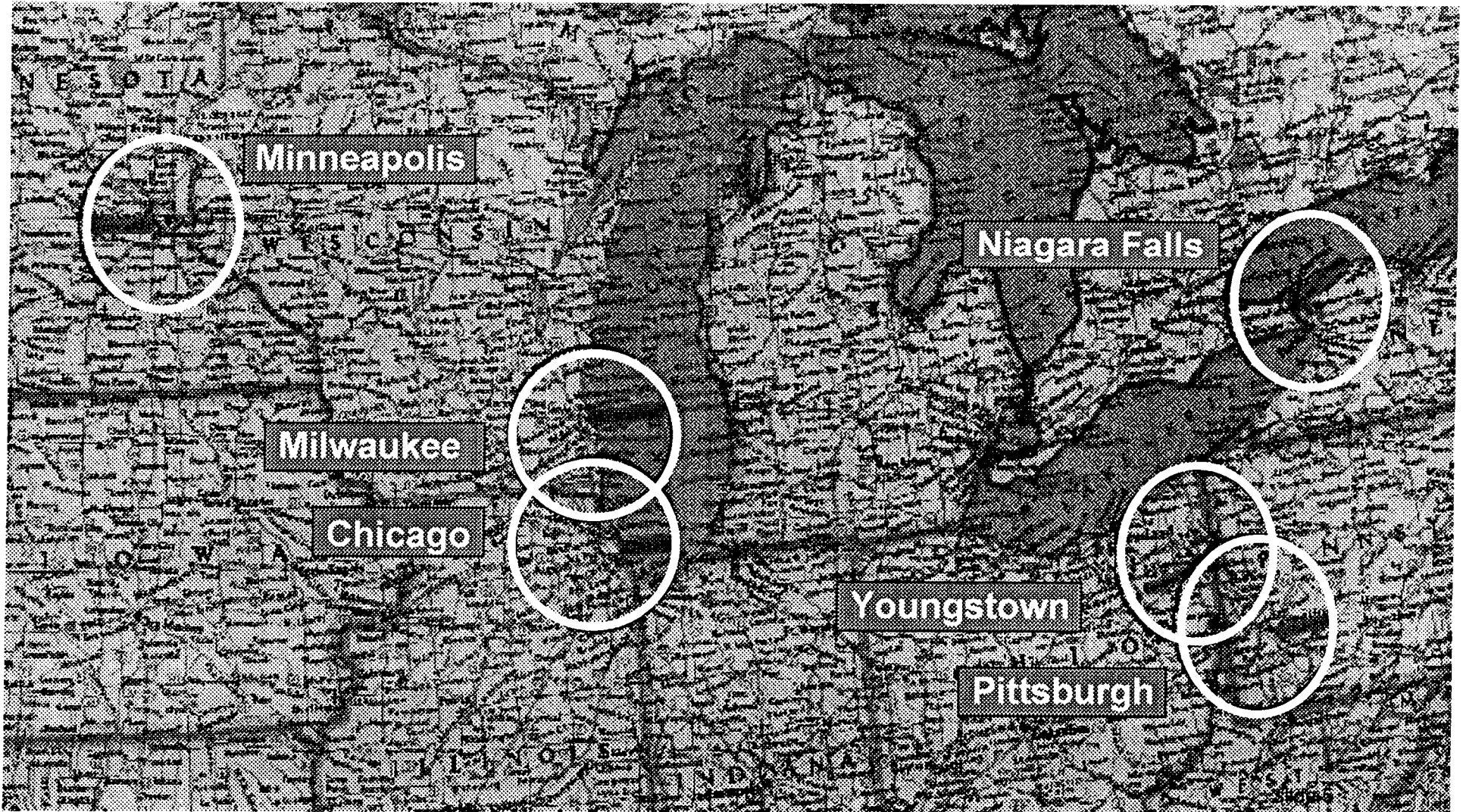
- Located on 987 acres of land, 6 miles East of Niagara Falls, New York on the North side of Niagara Falls International Airport

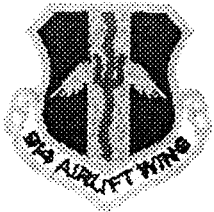
914th Airlift Wing

- 8 C-130 H3 Aircraft
- 340 Full time civilian employees
- 143 Officers assigned; 1,157 enlisted personnel
- 57 Full time contract employees

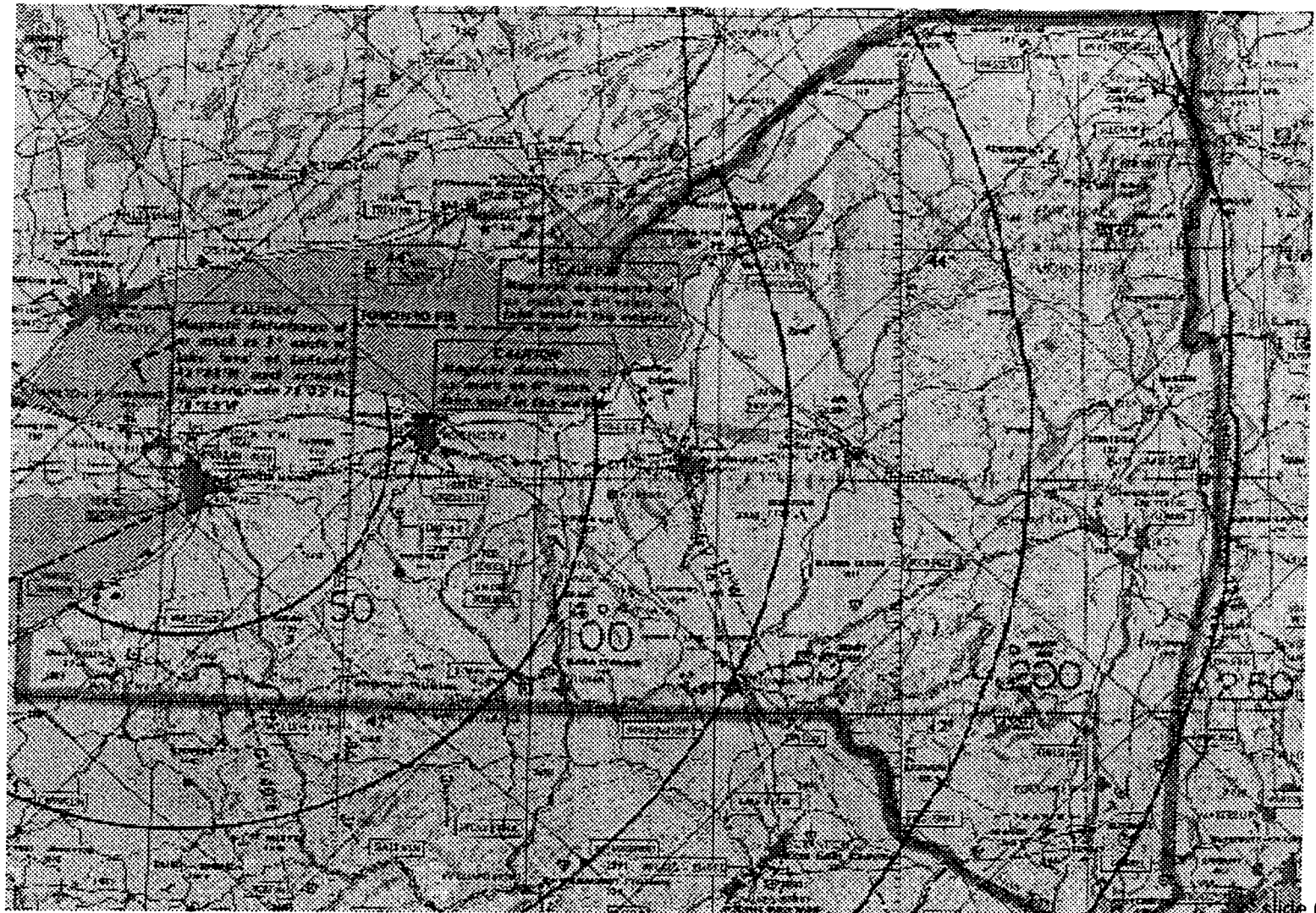


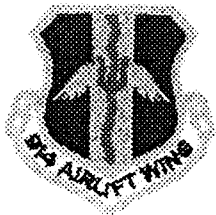
C-130 Bases Under Consideration



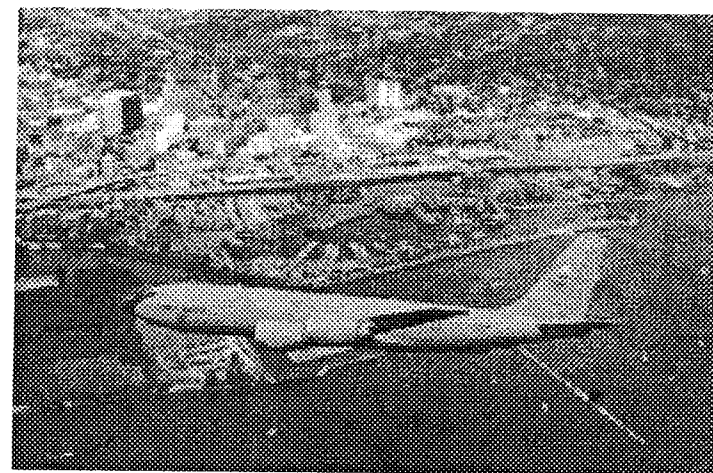
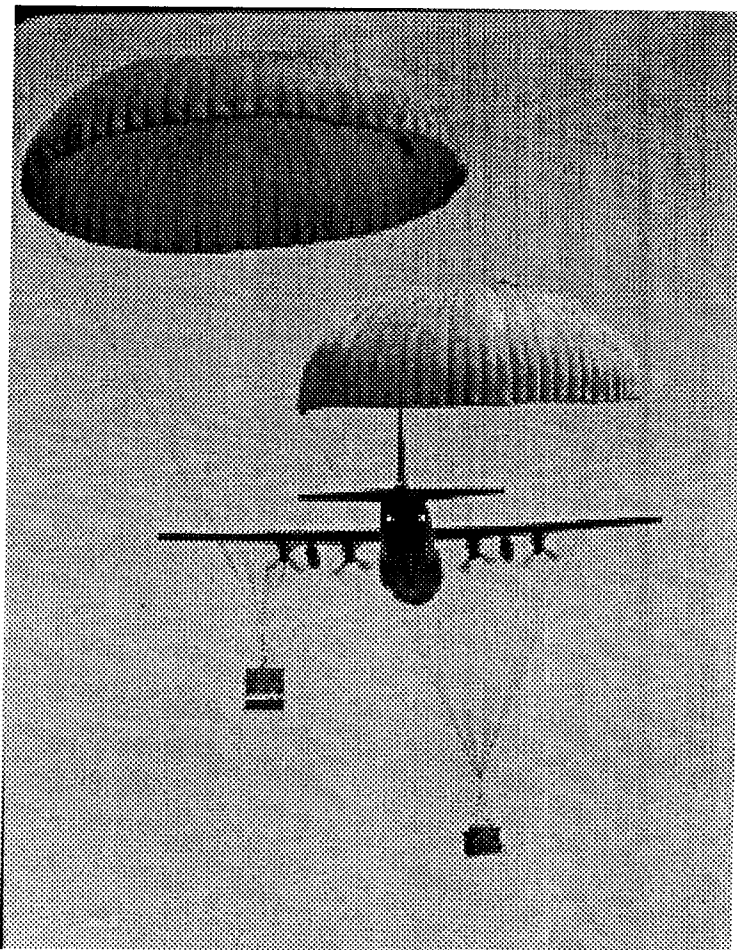


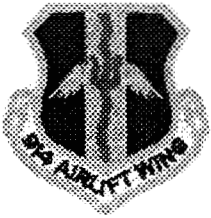
914th Airlift Wing Reaches Out from Western New York



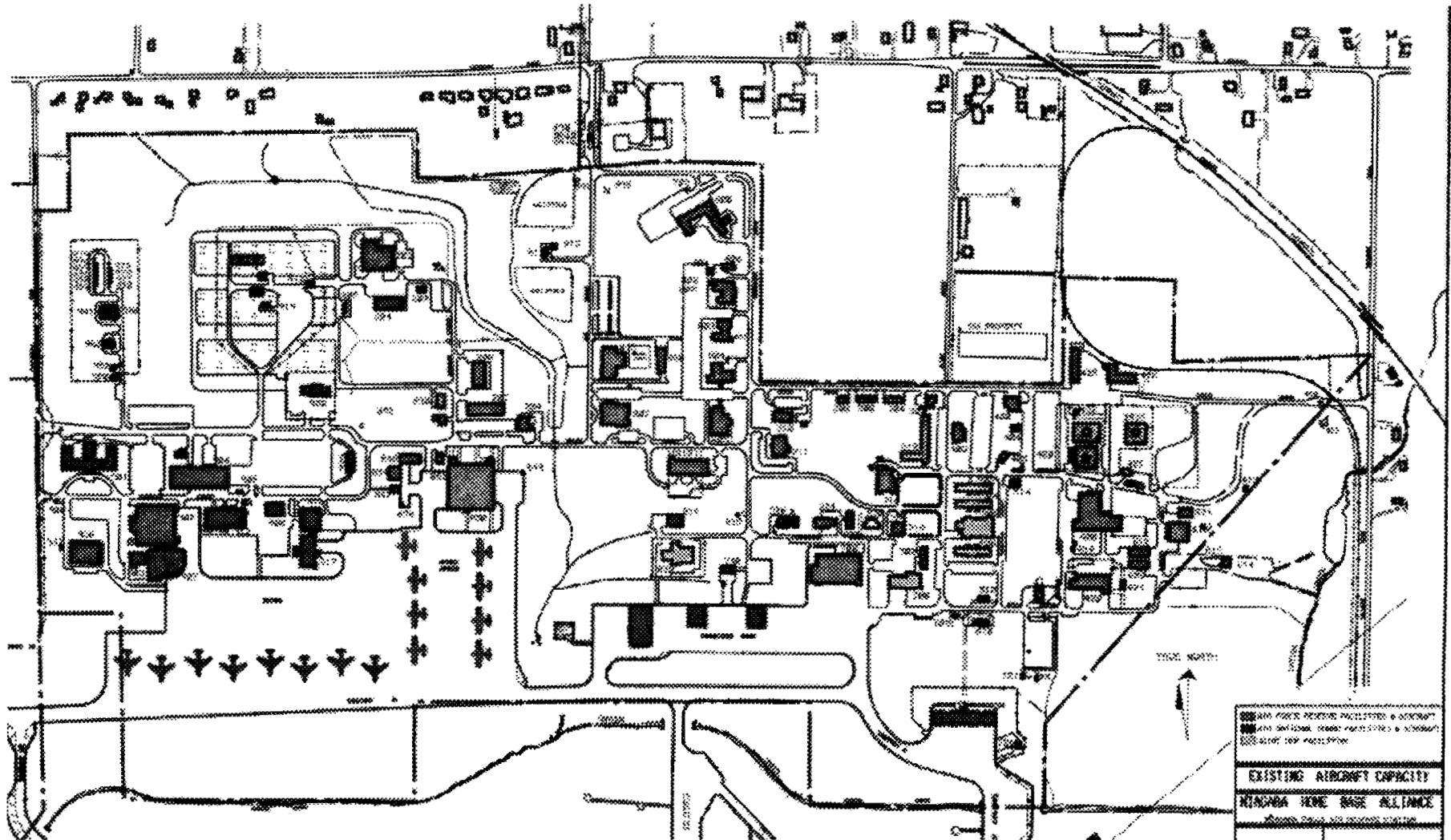


Niagara Falls IAP / ARS

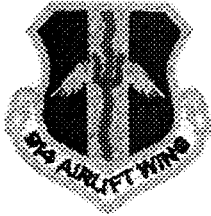




Niagara Falls IAP / ARS







Niagara Falls ARS/914 Airlift Wing

Military Value



Mission Statements

WAR TIME

Provide trained combat aircrews and aircraft capable of deploying and transporting personnel and equipment in response to worldwide hostilities. Provide evacuation capabilities, support aircraft landing operations on unimproved airstrips and airdrop operations in formation or single ship, on both day and night sorties.

PEACE TIME

Provide for the overall command and direction, planning, staff supervision and management of Air Force Reservists while providing operationally ready aircraft, crews and support personnel for training and humanitarian missions as directed by AFRES, 10th Air Force and the gaining major command.

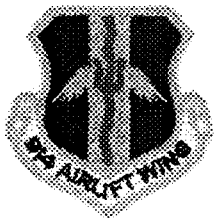


914th AW

Contingency Support



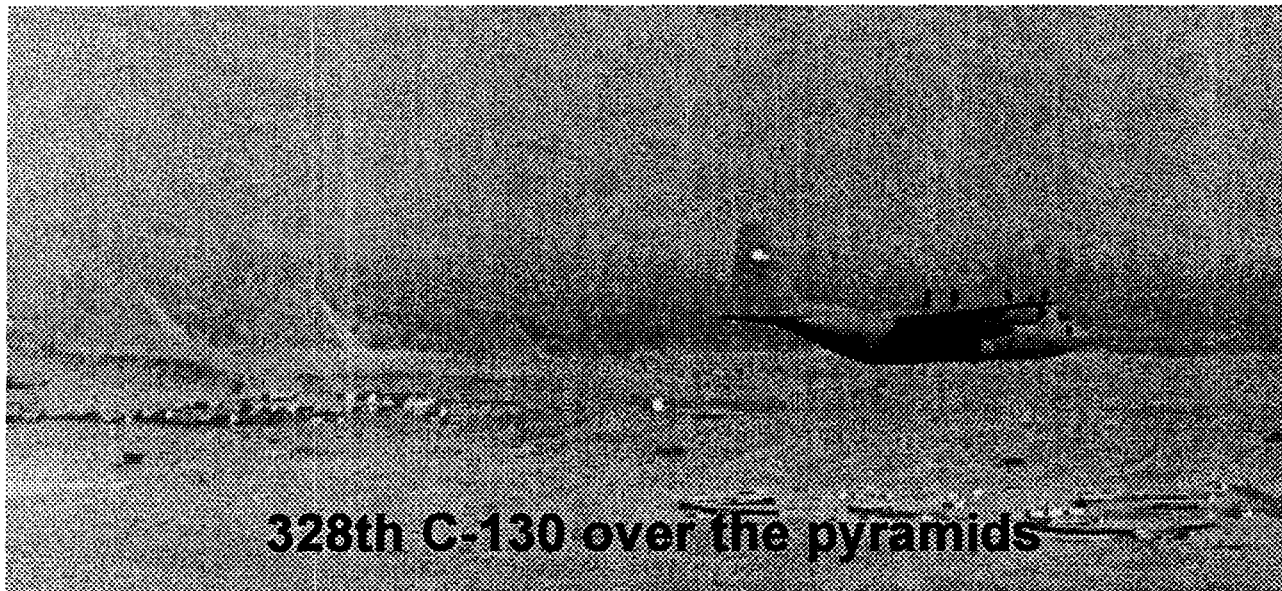
- **Desert Shield/Storm Oct 90 - Apr 91**
 - Among the six AFRES units under consideration, the 914th had the most extensive presence in the AOR
- **Provide Relief (Somalia) - 1992**
- **Provide Promise (Bosnia) - 1993-1994**
- **Provide Comfort (Turkey/Iraq) - 1994**
- **Restore Democracy (Haiti) - 1994**
 - Designated as Lead Unit for Combat Air Insertion element
- **Uphold Democracy (Haiti) - 1994**
 - Provided 10th Mtn Div troop insertion into Haitian AOR

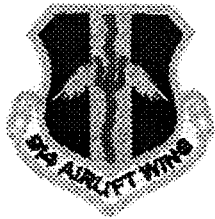


Humanitarian and Operational Support



- Volant Pine Lead Unit (England) - 1991
- Hurricane Andrew Relief (Domestic) - 1992
- Exercise BRIGHT STAR (Egypt) - 1993
- Volant / Coronet Oak (Panama) - Continuous





Record of Performance



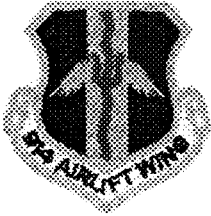
- **The 914th Airlift Wing has a combat tested, highly reliable record of performance:**
 - **Six contingencies and four operational / humanitarian support missions**
 - **2,900 sorties / 4,800 hours / 100% mission effectiveness during Desert Storm**
 - **Recognized by AFRES for exceptional expertise**
 - **32 Years and 110,000 accident-free flying hours**



Achievements



- **Consistent participation in real-world contingencies**
- **Converted from C-130E to C-130H2 to C-130H3 (1992-1994)**
- **Exceptional performance in an Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI - 1994)**
- **No AFRES C-130 unit has received a higher rating in the last nine years.**

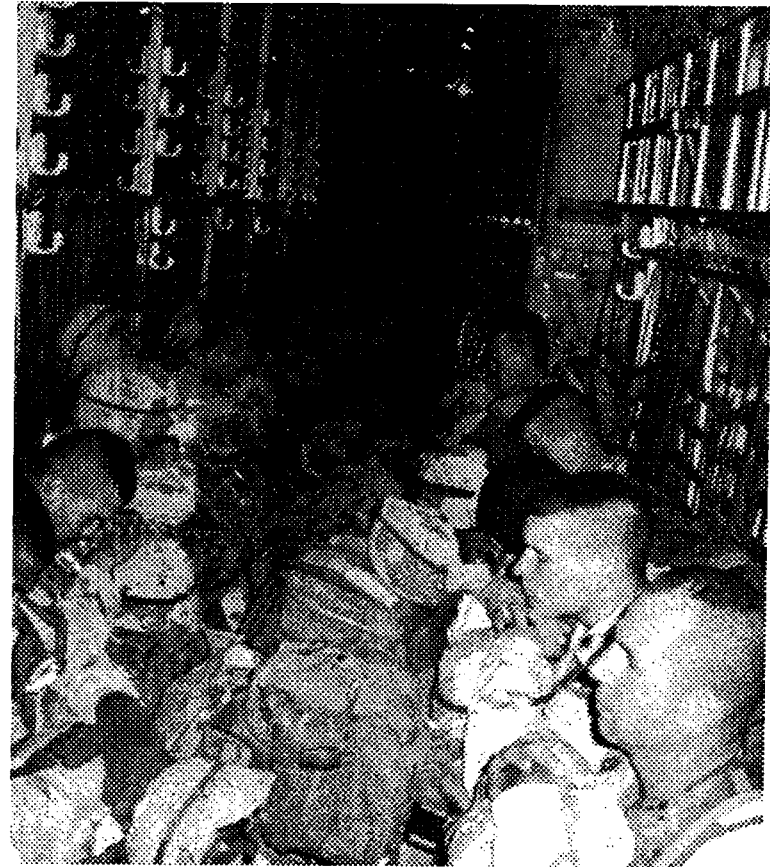


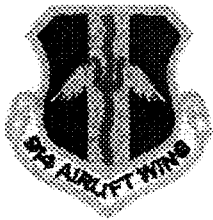
Peace Time Training Role and Contributions



The 914th Airlift Wing provides support to the Army at Fort Drum, as well as the Navy, Marine Corps, and National Guard.

- **Our location provides unique opportunities to maximize joint service training**

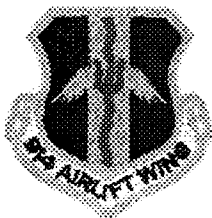




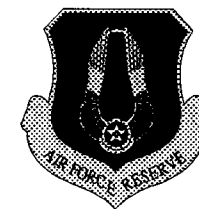
Summary of FY 95 Routine Joint Training Scheduled and Completed



UNIT SUPPORTED	AIRDROPS	DIRT ASSAULTS	AIRLANDS	LOAD TRAINING
10th Mtn Div Ft Drum, NY	32	22	38	32
109th Airlift Gp Schenectady, NY	87			
25th Marines Stewart, NY	10			
3Bn, 25th Marines Buffalo, NY			8	8
US Navy Undersea Warfare Unit-214 Buffalo, NY			2	2



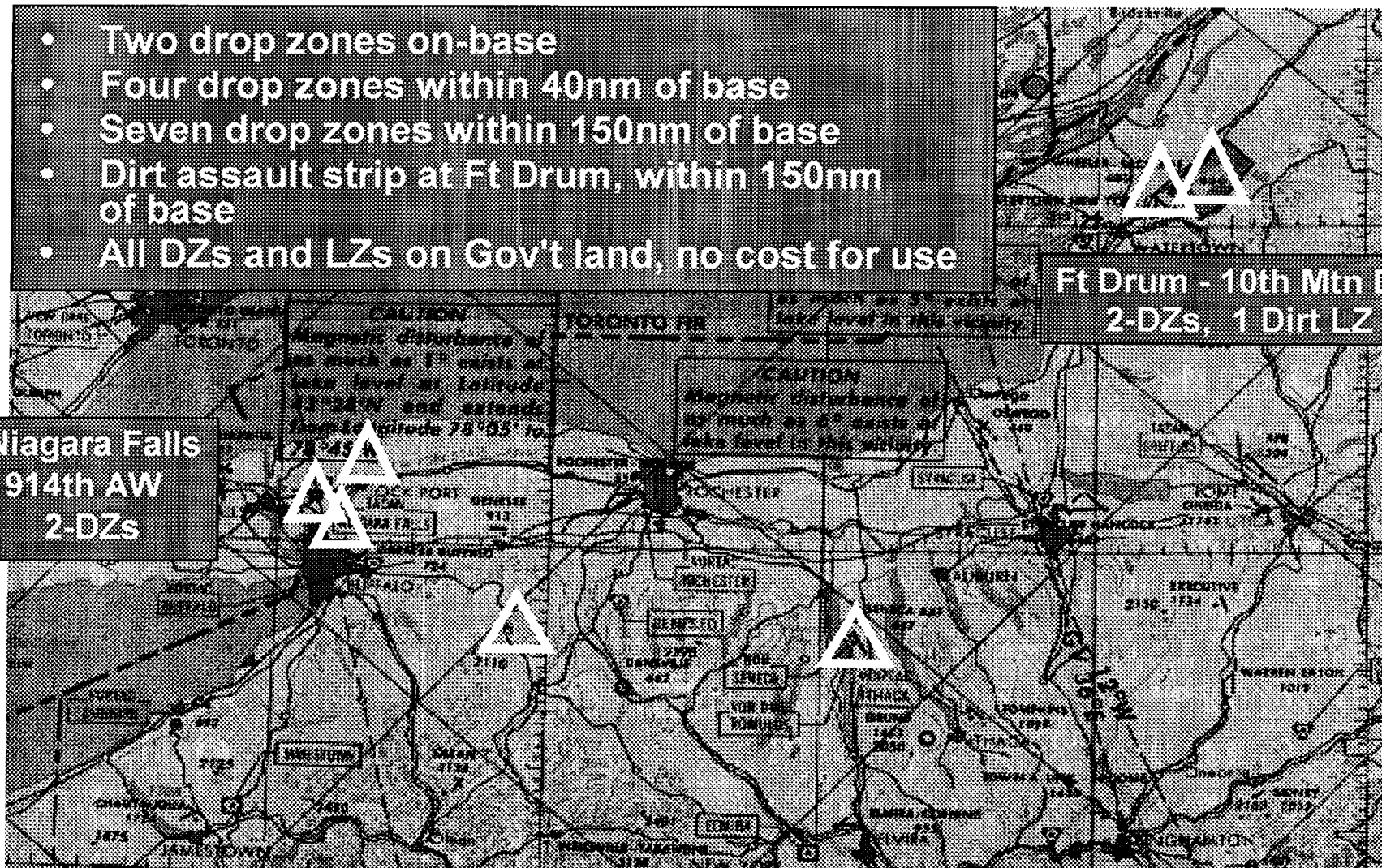
914th Drop Zones & Landing Zones

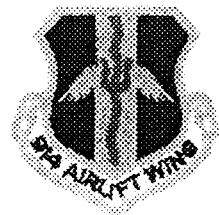


- Two drop zones on-base
- Four drop zones within 40nm of base
- Seven drop zones within 150nm of base
- Dirt assault strip at Ft Drum, within 150nm of base
- All DZs and LZs on Gov't land, no cost for use

Ft Drum - 10th Mtn Div
2-DZs, 1 Dirt LZ

Niagara Falls
914th AW
2-DZs



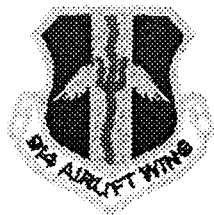


Operational Benefits: Airspace Advantages



The 914th Airlift Wing's location has numerous airspace-related advantages for flight operations and training.

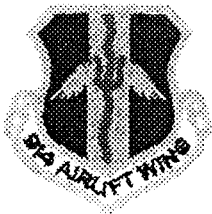
- **No air traffic encroachment or delays in ATC clearances**
- **Unlimited flexibility in developing IFR/SKE training routes**
 - **Only Reserve C-130 unit that can perform tactical IFR formation training with actual IFR drops at the installation**
- **Excellent IFR and VFR training due to weather patterns**
- **Extensive low level training areas have current environmental impact statements and valid permits**
- **Excellent location for Night Vision Goggle (NVG) missions due to the ideal training regions of Western New York and Canada**
- **Local training agreements with CFB Trenton, Canada**



Unit Expertise Long Recognized by AFRES



- **Provided initial cadre flight crew and maintenance training for:**
 - **Duke AFRES Base (FL) conversion to C-130A - '75**
 - **Pittsburgh (PA) conversion to C-130A - '81**
 - **Rickenbacker (OH) conversion to C-130A - '82**
 - **Honduran AF conversion to C-130A - '85**
 - **Peterson Field (CO) conversion to C-130H3 - '94**
- **Frequently augment HQ AFRES Inspector General teams**
- **Wing Stan/Eval widely recognized for their expertise**
- **Lead unit for AFRES airlift mission NVG training**

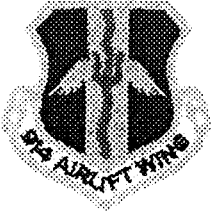


Military Base Capability

AIRFIELD	JET FUEL STORAGE (1000 GAL)	AVAILABLE ON BASE QUARTERS	AEROMED ON BASE	ASSAULT TRAINING ON BASE	DROP ZONES ON AIRFIELD	NON-STOP TO EUROPE*
NIAGARA	672	376**	YES	YES	TWO	YES
Pittsburgh	105	244	yes	no	none	yes
Minneapolis	462	186	yes	no	none	no
Chicago	420	none	yes	no	none	no
Milwaukee	210	none	no	no	none	no
Youngstown	630	113	no	yes	none	yes

* Note 1: Non-stop to Europe assumes a great circle direct route to RAF Mildenhall, no wind, and 300 KTAS. Niagara Falls is 200 miles closer than the next closest base.

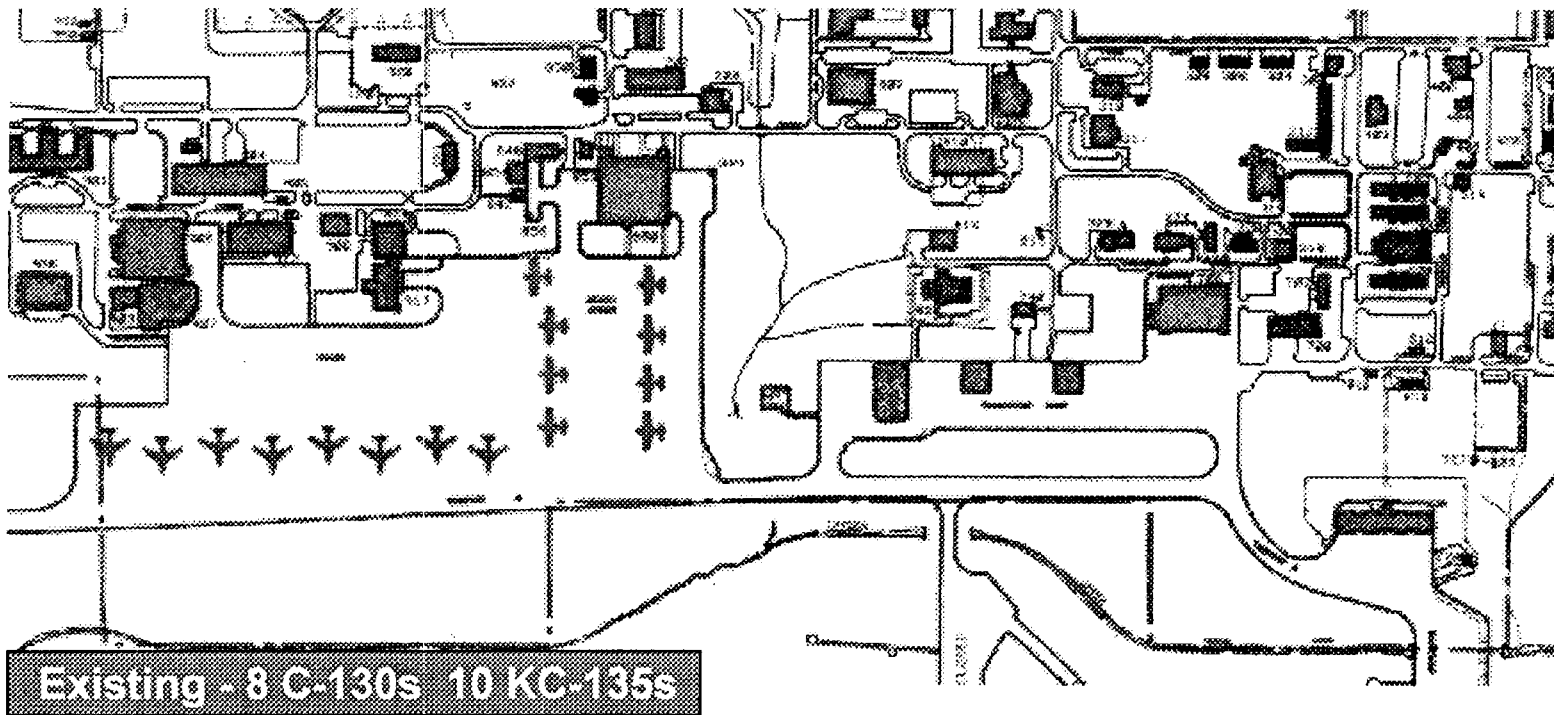
** Note 2: Indicates capacity with one person per room. With two per room, capacity increases to 528 people. In a contingency, up to 800 can be accommodated using surge capability of base gym.



Military Base Capability



- **Strategically located**
 - Capable of expanding to meet DOD requirements for any contingency or deployment

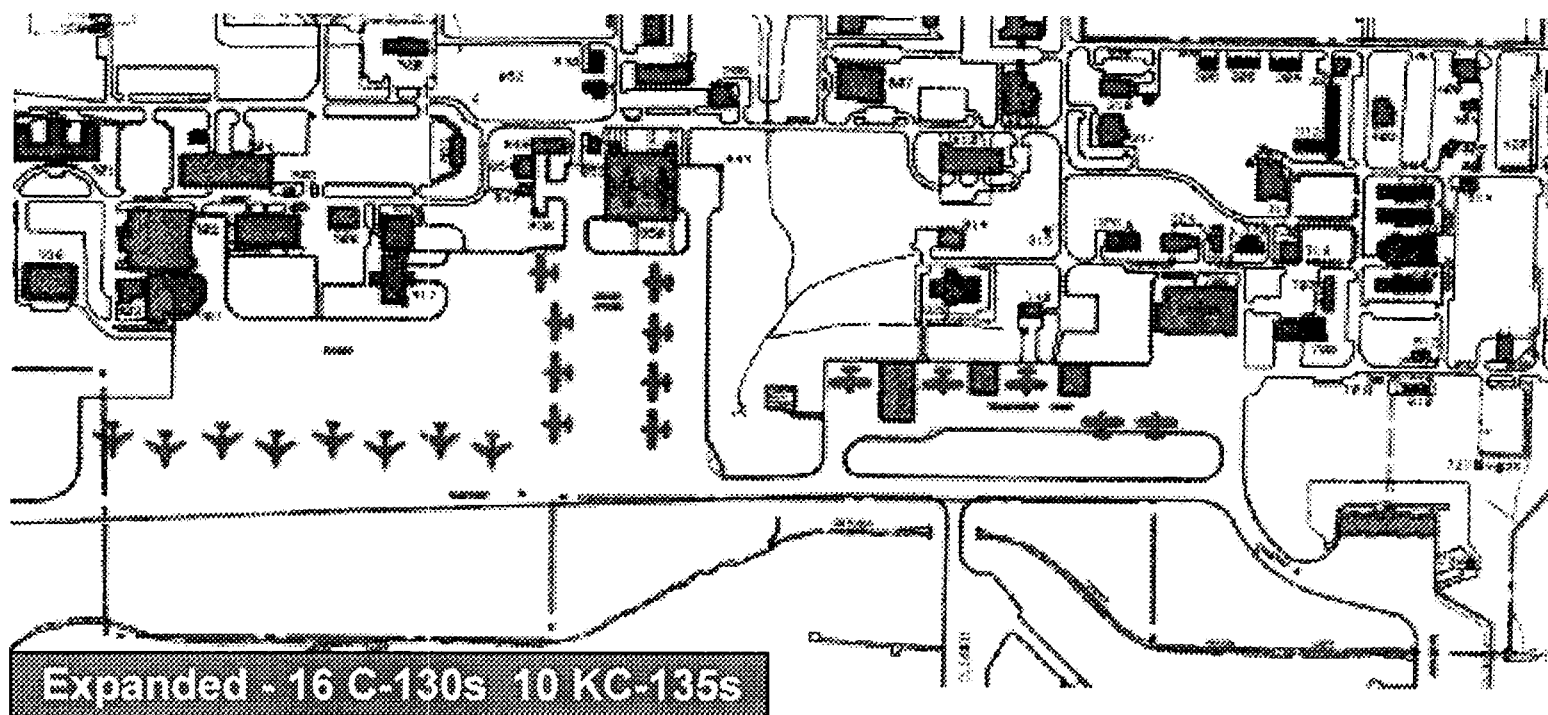


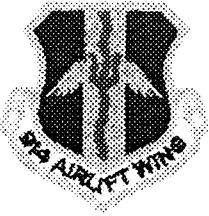


Military Base Capability



- **Strategically located**
 - Capable of expanding to meet DOD requirements for any contingency or deployment

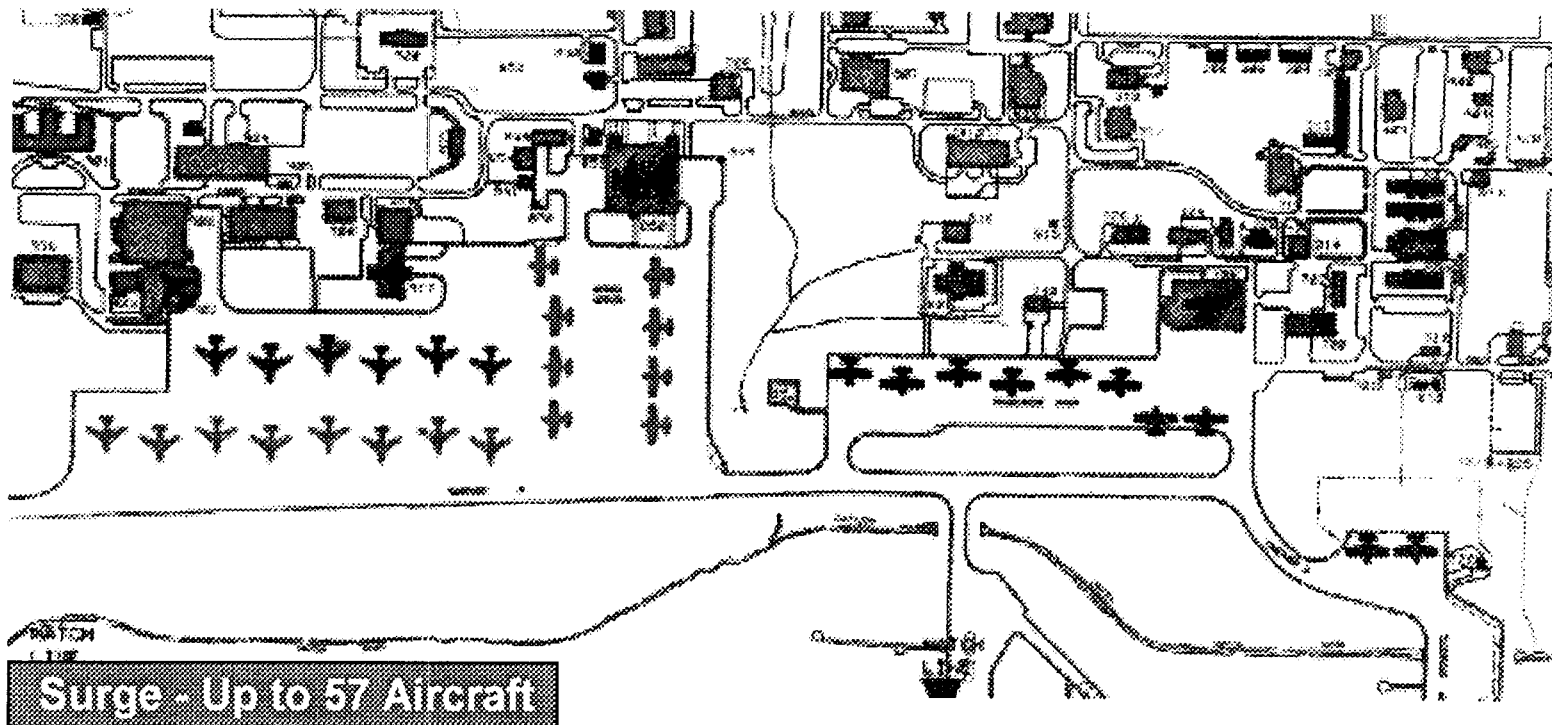




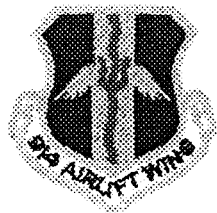
Military Base Capability



- **Strategically located**
 - Capable of expanding to meet DOD requirements for any contingency or deployment







Corrected Data for 1995 Base Operating Costs



Support Costs	\$ 17.3
Less Payroll/Construction	<u>(\$10.1)</u>
DOD February 1995 COBRA Data	\$ 7.2
Less A-76 costs	<u>(\$2.6)</u>
ADJUSTED SUPPORT COSTS	\$ 4.6

Niagara ARS is the only AFRES base under study that has in place a Base Operating Support (BOS) services contract through the A-76 program



Corrected Cost Comparison For AFRES Bases Under Study



	<u>Milwau</u>	<u>Pitts</u>	<u>Minn</u>	<u>Niagara</u>	<u>Chicago</u>	<u>Youngs</u>
FY 94 O&M BUDGET	23.5	22.9	24.2	27.0	28.4	24.5
Less Mission Costs	9.9	10.2	11.3	9.7	11.7	11.8
Gross Support Costs	13.6	12.7	12.9	17.3	16.7	12.7
Less:						
Payroll	8.8	7.1	6.5	6.6	10.1	7.7
Construction	1.3	2.6	2.1	3.8	2.4	2.7
A-76 Contract				2.6		
Net Support Costs:	3.5	3.0	4.3	4.6	4.2	2.3

All six bases are very similar in terms of their operating expenses



Additional Cost Considerations



If the Reserve Station closes, the NY Air National Guard would incur additional operating costs.

- **The DOD estimates this cost at \$600,000**
- **The NYANG places this figure at \$2 million**

Because of this \$2 million cost transfer, the savings to the government is overstated by \$1.4 million

- **The ROI would increase from one year to two years.**

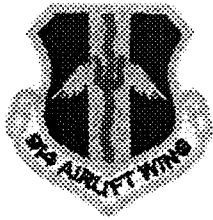


Impact On The Community



The 914th Airlift Wing enjoys great support from the Niagara Falls / Buffalo community. Its loss would have a significant and devastating impact.

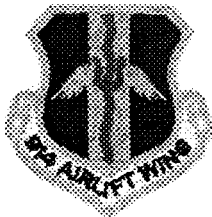
- The DOD states that Niagara ARS closure would have an impact of 1.1% on the WNY economy.**
- This is a "real world" impact of \$64.9 million annually.**
- Niagara Falls ARS has the second largest payroll in Niagara County.**



Economic Impact

Base Names	Percent Job Loss
Niagara Falls IAP ARS	1.1%
Youngstown-Warren MPT ARS	0.5%
Gen Mitchell IAP ARS	0.1%
Greater Pittsburgh IAP ARS	0.1%
Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP ARS	0.1%
Chicago O'Hare IAP ARS	0.0%

Source: AF BRAC Documents

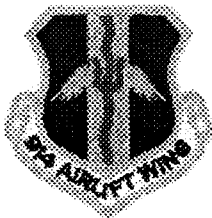


Community Ties



Niagara Falls ARS and its Reservists are closely tied to the greater Niagara family

- **Fire Department is a key component in the Niagara County Mutual Aid Plan**
 - **Backup support**
 - **Training - close to 4,200 individuals in four years**
 - **HAZMAT response**
 - **Mitigation and prevention**
- **Home of the Niagara Quality Council**
- **Involved in the DARE program**
- **Involved in labor relations training**



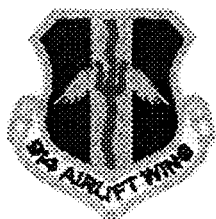
New York State BRAC Impact



The 914th Airlift Wing is the last Air Force Reserve presence in the State of New York.

- **Over 40 military facilities in New York were closed between 1969 and 1993, with a direct loss of 68,000 jobs.**
- **In previous BRAC rounds, New York lost 22 percent of its Defense Department jobs, a total of 9,100. New York's job loss in the 1993 BRAC round was a greater percentage than any other state, except South Carolina.**





Personnel Training and Recruitment



The 914th Airlift Wing draws its personnel from a recruiting area encompassing Niagara Falls, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse - all of Western New York

- **Ample supply of high quality personnel**

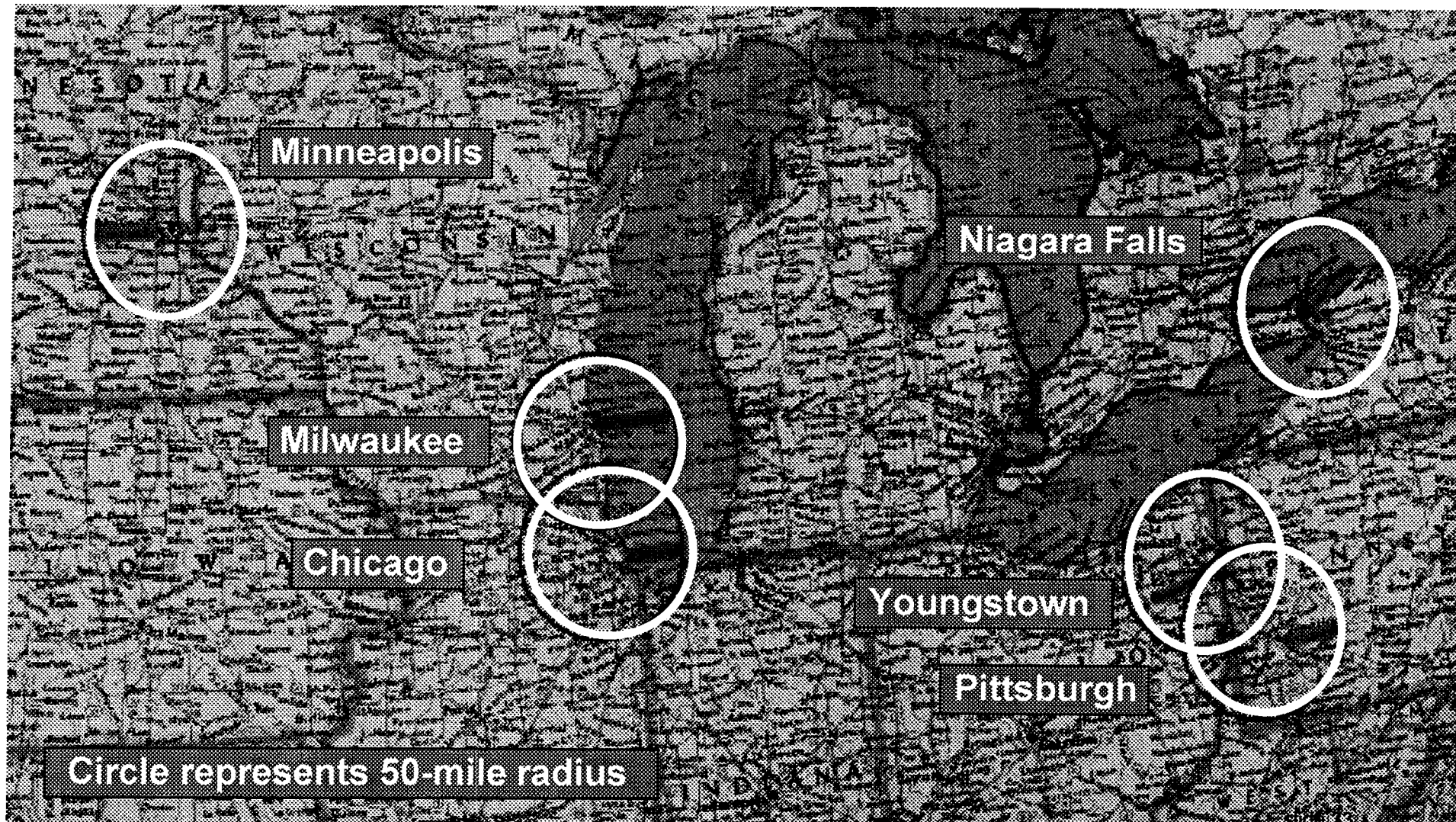
For the BRAC Commission, Military Value is the #1 measure our defense facilities are judged by

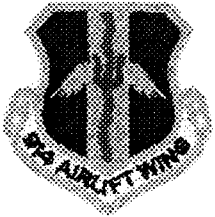
- **For the 914th, its people are the #1 contribution to military value**
- **They are combat-tested and highly skilled**



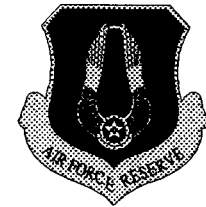


Recruitment Regions





Cost to Reservists to Commute to Nearest Alternate Reserve Base



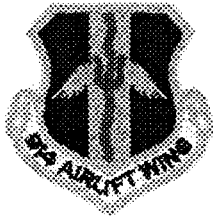
- **Monetary Effects**

- Average travel costs would be \$740 per year - as much as one-third of a Reservist's gross pay
- Wear and tear on car - 4,200 miles per year

- **Other factors**

- Eight-hour round trip commute is four times greater than the Air Force's established travel policy
- Nearest Reserve base would be unable to absorb all 914th reservists. Assignment to other bases would impose even greater hardships to individual reservists.

Most of our highly trained and experienced Reservists could no longer afford to participate in the reserve program.



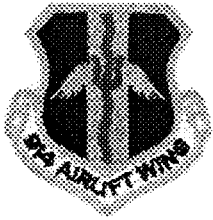
AFRES Needs to Retain Personnel and Proficiency



Since most Reservists cannot relocate, the closure of the Niagara Falls IAP/ARS would permanently deny the Air Force Reserve its most combat-proven personnel team.

- The 914th Airlift Wing's personnel are the Niagara ARS' #1 Military Value Component**



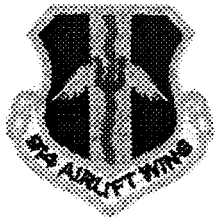


Conclusions



- **NIAGARA ARS IS THE PREMIER AIR FORCE RESERVE C-130 BASE.**

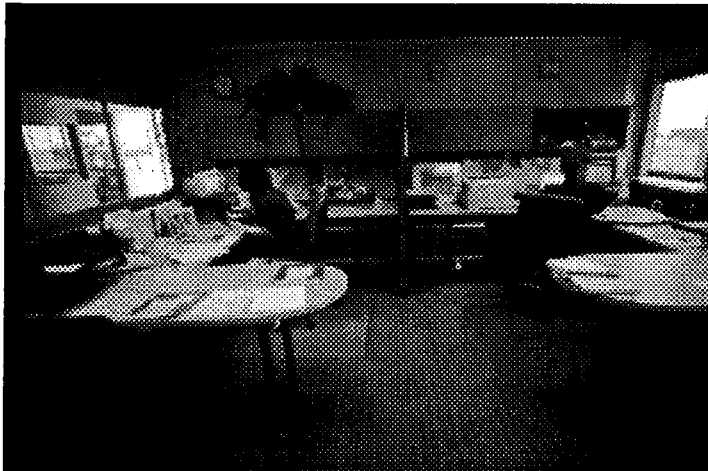


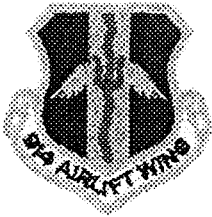


Conclusions



- Niagara ARS is the premier Air Force Reserve C-130 base.
- NIAGARA (ARS) AND THE 914TH AIRLIFT WING ARE OF ESSENTIAL MILITARY VALUE BECAUSE OF OUR PERSONNEL, TRAINING, COMBAT EXPERIENCE, AND LOCATION.





Conclusions



- **Niagara ARS is the premier Air Force Reserve C-130 base.**
- **Niagara (ARS) and the 914th airlift wing are of essential military value because of our personnel, training, combat experience, and location.**
- **Closure of the Niagara Falls IAP/ARS would have a devastating impact on its personnel, resulting in a loss of a combat-tested and proven unit for the Air Force Reserve.**
- **BOS COSTS AMONG THE C-130 AIR RESERVE UNITS ARE EXTREMELY CLOSE. WHEN COUPLED WITH THE MILITARY VALUE OF THE BASE AND ITS UNIT, THIS JUSTIFIES ITS RETENTION BY THE 1995 BRAC COMMISSION.**

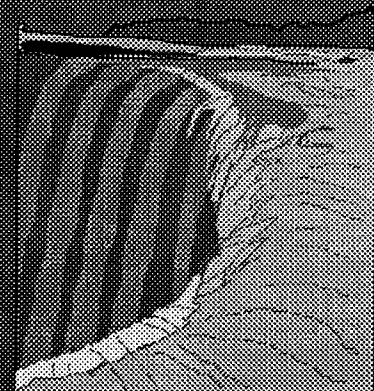


914th AIRLIFT WING

. . . . first in PEOPLE,

. . . . first in READINESS,

. . . . first in SERVICE.



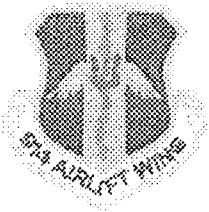




914th AIRLIFT WING



BASE SUPPORT SERVICES COST



BRAC DATA

4 YR. AVERAGE



• <u>BASES</u>	<u>NPV</u>	<u>ROI</u>	<u>SAVINGS</u>
• Mitchell	(223,374)	1 yr.	88.8 (\$K)
• Youngstown	(211,301)	1 yr.	86.4 (\$K)
• O'Hare	(204,271)	2 yr.	77.1 (\$K)
• Pittsburgh	(196,889)	1 yr.	80.7 (\$K)
• Niagara	(196,419)	1 yr.	80.4 (\$K)
• Minneapolis	(180,049)	1 yr.	68.5 (\$K)



COBRA MODEL Vs. ANG ESTIMATE OF DIRECT COSTS



- Air National Guard as Host
 - 53 workyears @ \$36,800 \$ 2.0 M
- COBRA Model
 - 16 workyears @ \$36,800 \$ 0.6 M
- DIFFERENCE
 - 37 workyears \$ 1.4 M



ADDITIONAL DIRECT COSTS



- Air National Guard as Host
- Workyears @ \$36,800 = \$ costs
 - Fire Department 35 wys \$1.28 M
 - Security Police 8 wys .29 M
 - Communications 3 wys .11 M
 - Vehicle Maint. 3 wys .11 M
 - Fuel Service/PLO 3 wys .11 M
 - Hazardous Material 1 wys .04 M
 - Total 53 wys \$1.94 M

A-76 CONTRACT COST (CREDIT)

The 914 AW is different from the other five reserve C-130 bases, in that a significant portion of support services is provided by commercial contract.



The BRAC questionnaire, utilized by the Air Force Reserve to collect financial data for each base, does not properly address A-76 Contract Services.

The instructions for this questionnaire provide for the exclusion of civilian payroll cost in the computation of base support service costs, but not A-76 contract cost.

The A-76 contract cost should be excluded, because service fees paid to a private contractor are direct labor costs associated with base support service. The contract employees hired under an A-76 contract are replacing federal employees. In the case of Niagara Falls IAP, 75 federal employees were replaced by 56 contract employees, for a five year savings in excess of \$1.6 M.

It's our position that the \$2.6M associated with the service portion of the A-76 contract should be excluded as a payroll related expense.

The exclusion of A-76 cost would result in an adjusted support cost of \$4.6 M for the Air Force Reserve at Niagara Falls.



Defense Cutbacks in New York State

*NYS Department of Economic Development
One Commerce Plaza
Albany, NY*

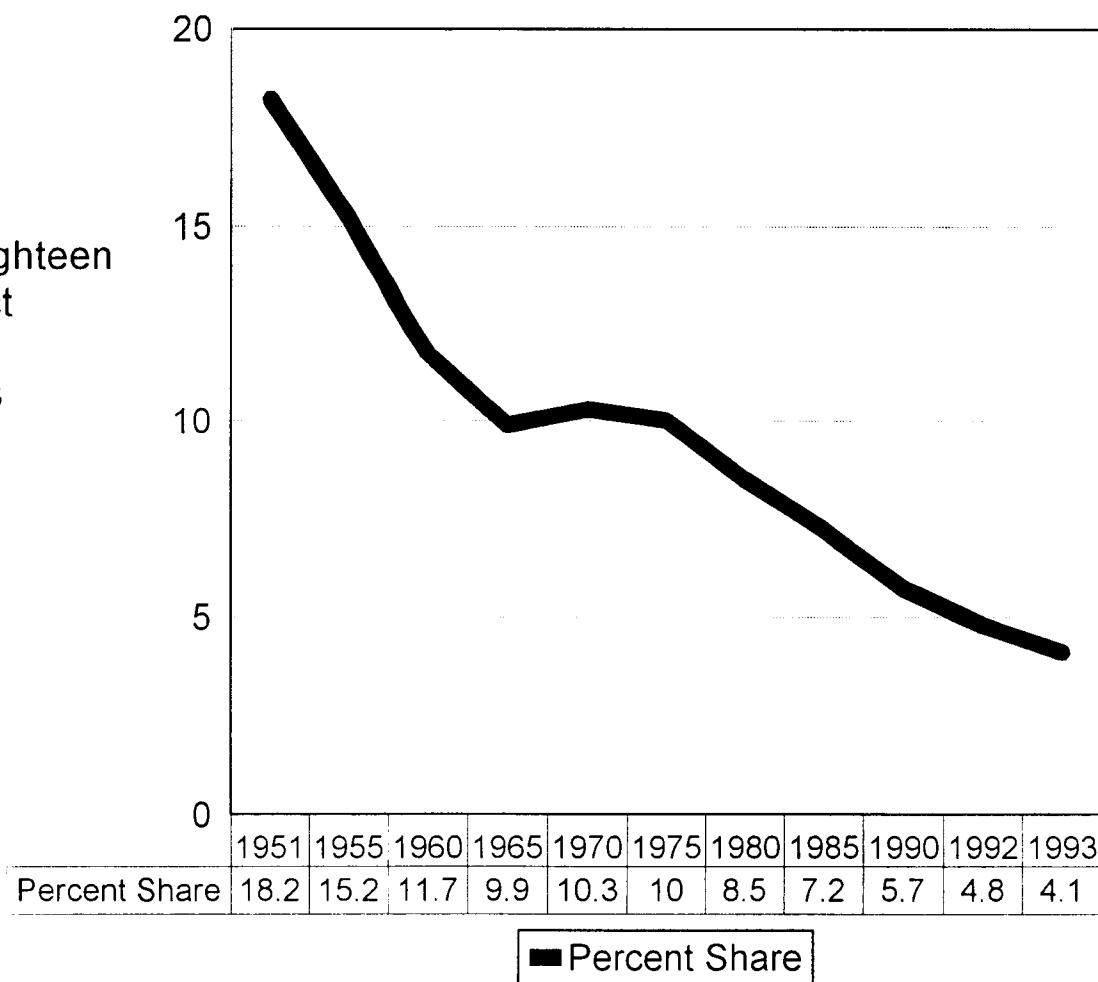
May 26, 1995

I. Contract Awards

DOD Contract Awards Won by NYS Firms

Percentage Share 1951-1993

In 1951, NYS firms received over eighteen percent of all Defense prime contract awards. Since that time, the State's percent share of Pentagon contracts has steadily declined.

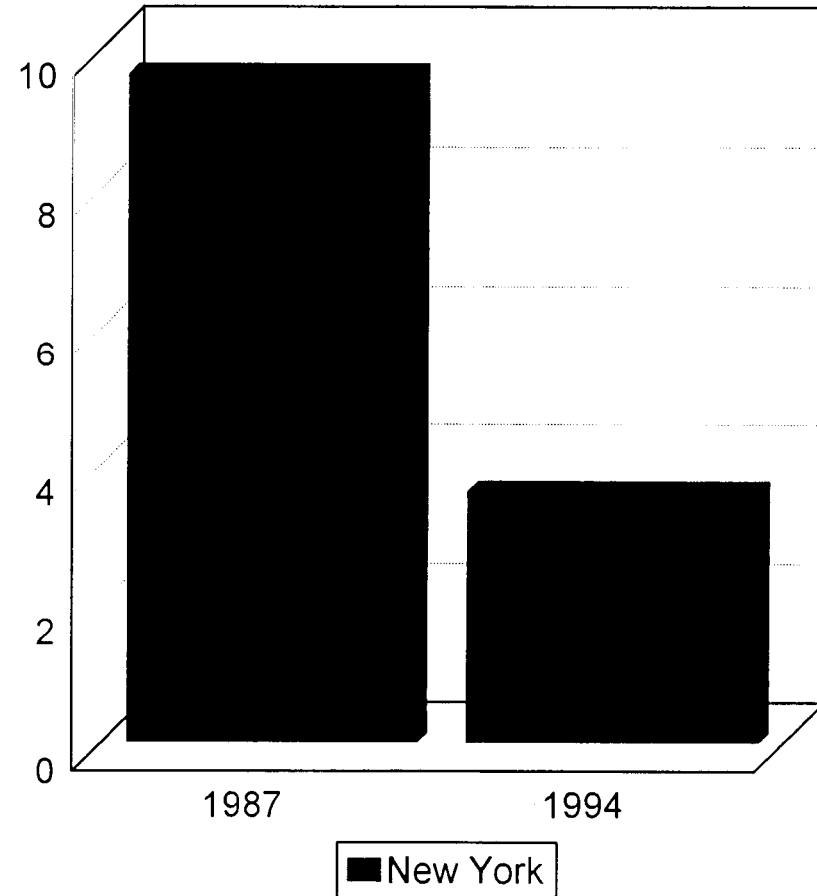


Prime Contract Awards

(Billions dollars)

From 1987 to 1994, prime contract awards to New York dropped by 62 percent, from \$9.6 billion to \$3.6 billion -- the largest drop of any state in the nation.

Using DOD's estimate that \$1 billion in contracts support approximately 25,000 jobs, the loss of prime contract awards in New York since 1987 has cost the State over 150,000 jobs.



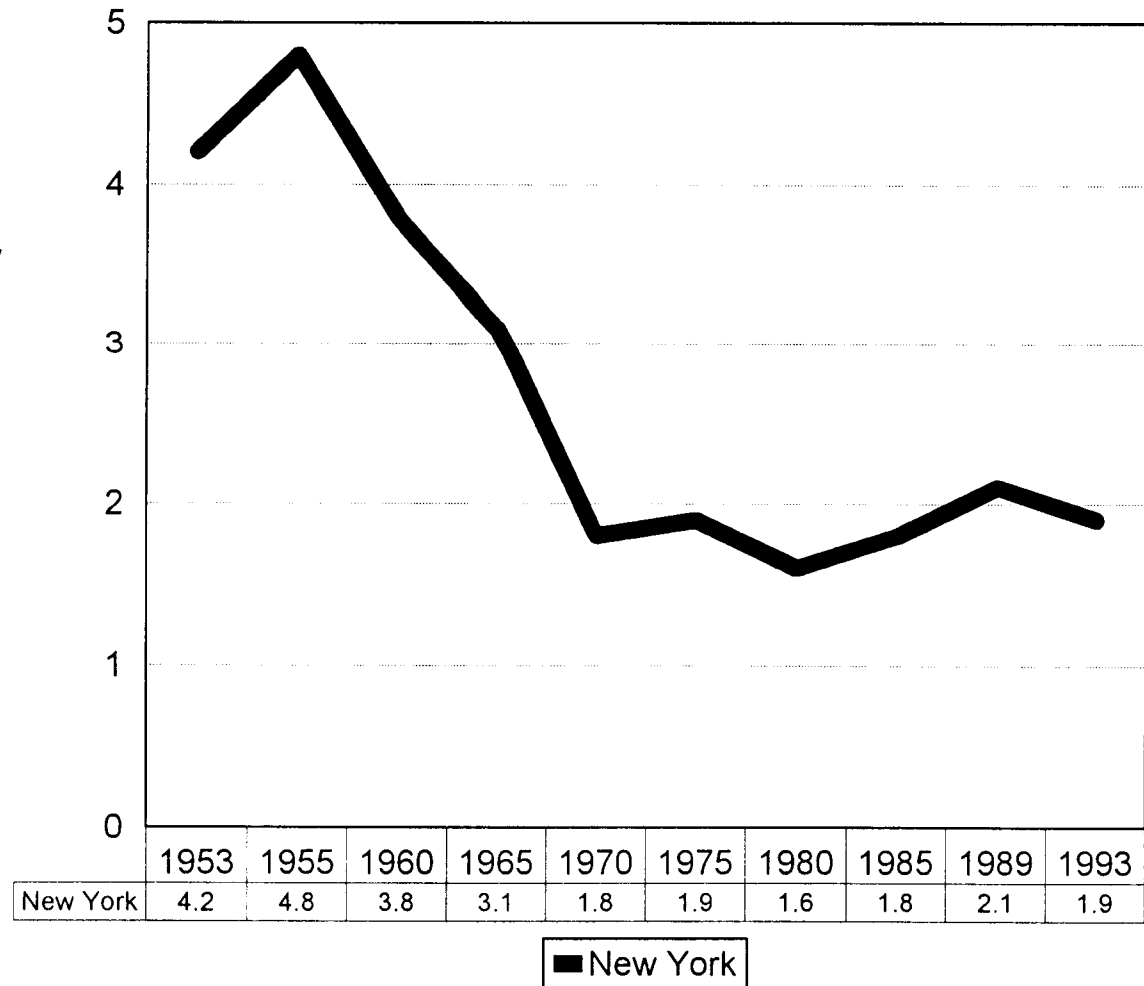
II. Bases and Personnel

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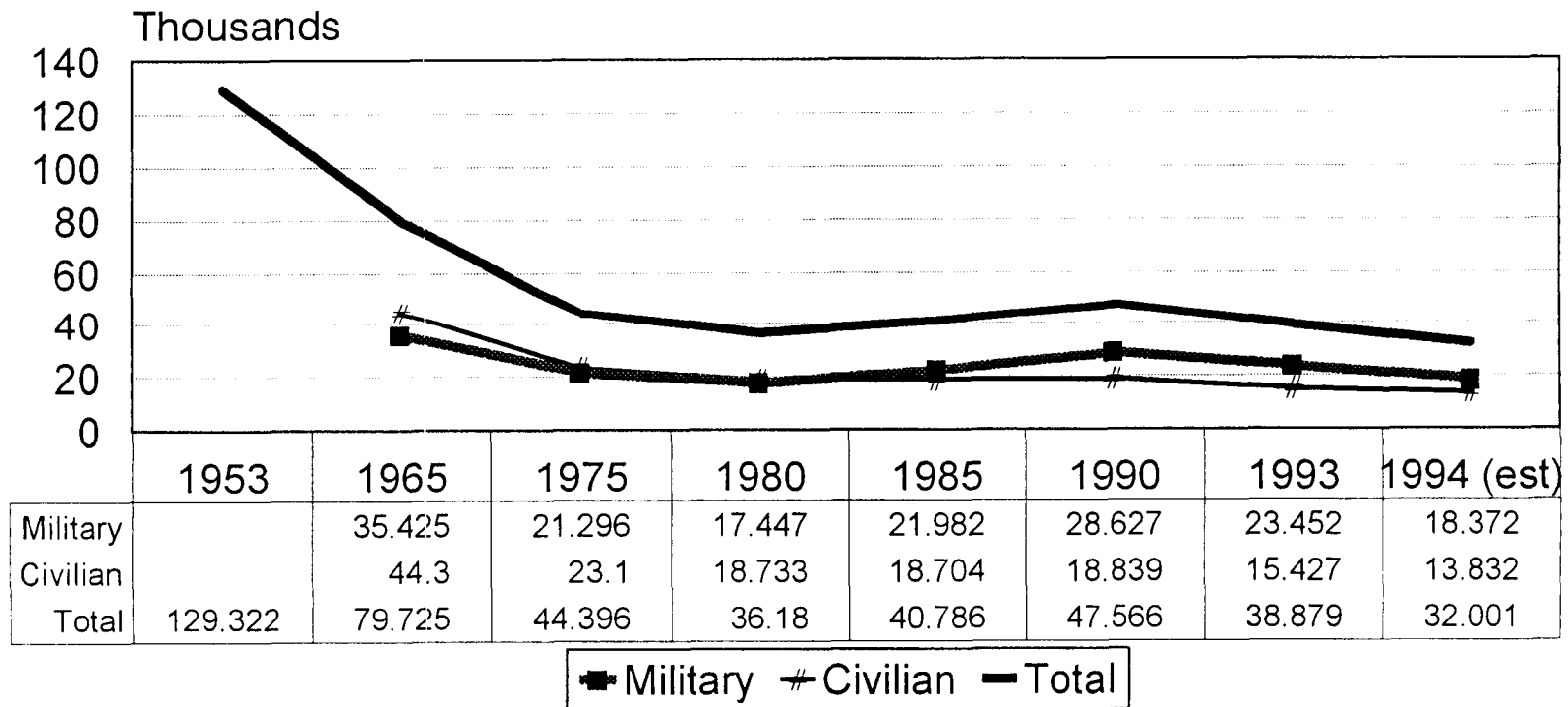
Percent of U.S. DOD Military and Civilian Personnel

New York: 1953-1993

In 1953, New York was home to 4.4 percent of the nation's military and civilian employees. By 1993, this figure had dropped to 1.9 percent.



DOD Personnel in New York

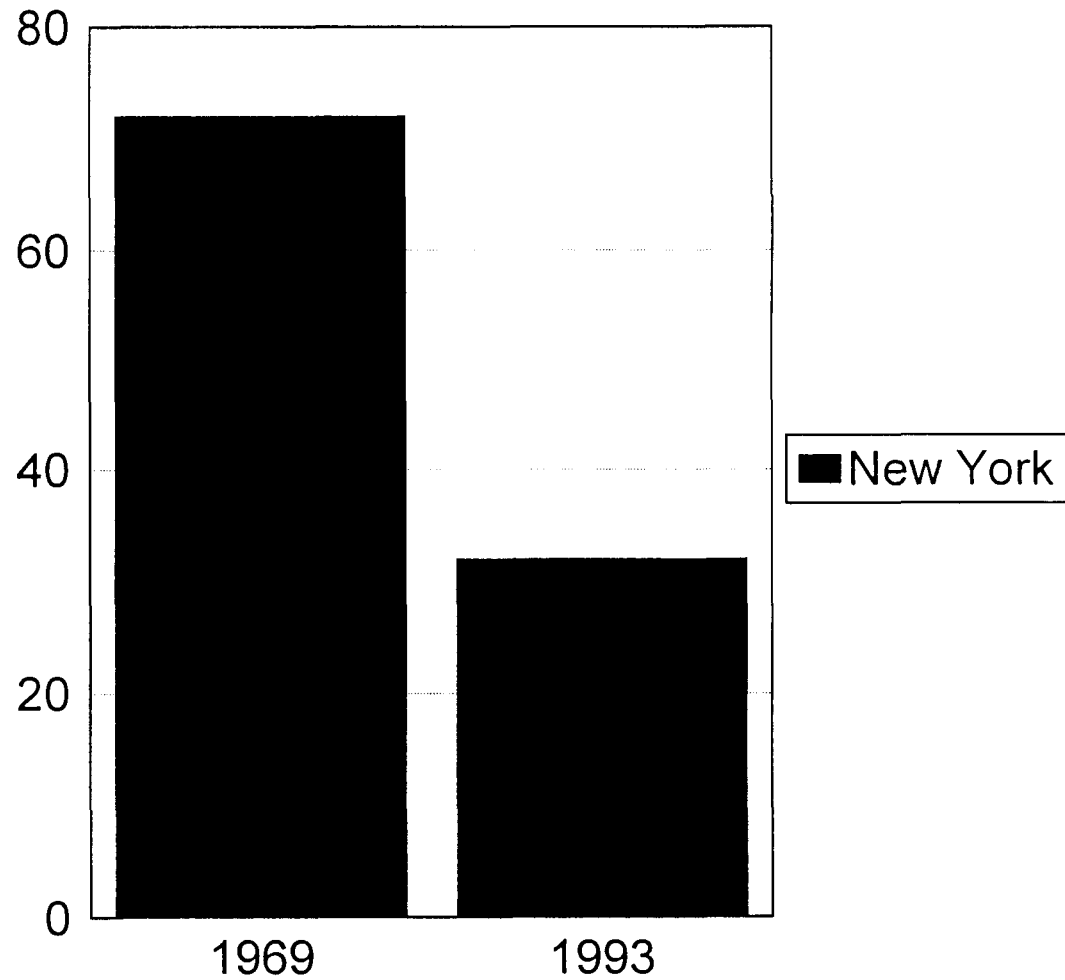


In FY 1953, DOD had 129,322 military and civilian employees in NYS. By 1994, the figure dropped to 32,000 (est.) -- a loss of nearly 100,000 jobs.

New York's Military Installations

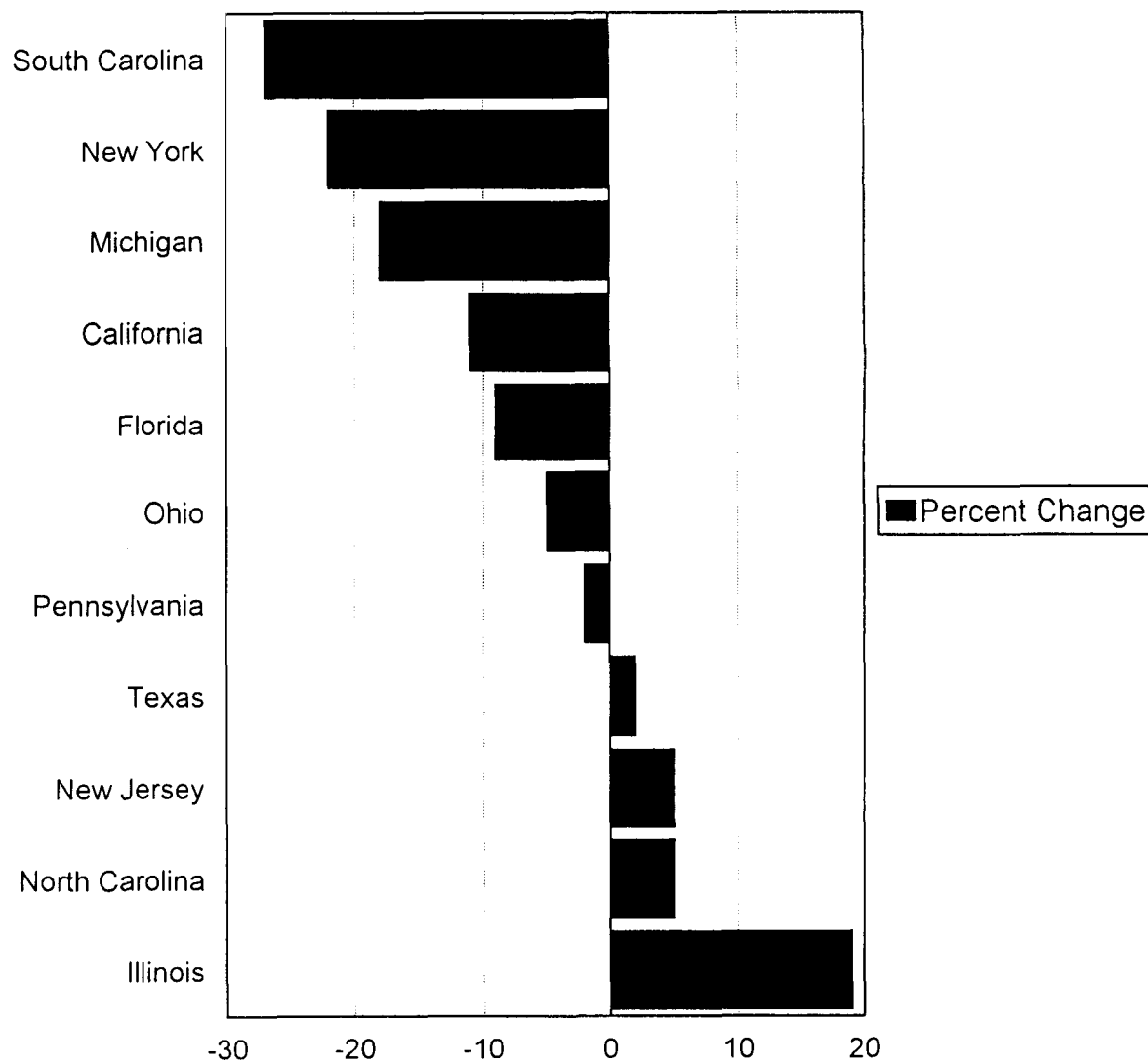
Number Closed from 1969 to 1993

Between 1969 and 1993, the Pentagon shut 40 military facilities in New York State resulting in a loss of 68,000 direct jobs.



DOD Employment Changes as a Result of the 1993 BRAC

The 1993 BRAC round cost the state 22 percent or 9,104 of its 41,574 Defense Department jobs. That's a greater percentage loss than any other state except South Carolina.



III. Defense Cutbacks in Western New York

III. Defense Cutbacks in Western New York

- **Contract Awards**

- Between 1987 and 1994, DOD prime contract awards to firms located in Western New York dropped by 36 percent from \$284 million dollars to \$181 million dollars.

- **Bases and Personnel**

- The workforce at the Seneca Army Depot has declined by more than 1,300 employees. The 300 jobs remaining at the base are in jeopardy because Seneca is on the 1995 BRAC list.
 - The Real-Time Digitally Controlled Analyzer Processor activity (REDCAP) at Buffalo, New York is also on this year's BRAC list. REDCAP helps to support over 75 jobs at CALSPAN.
 - The 1993 BRAC ordered the shutdown of DOD Family Housing and Family Housing Office at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.
-

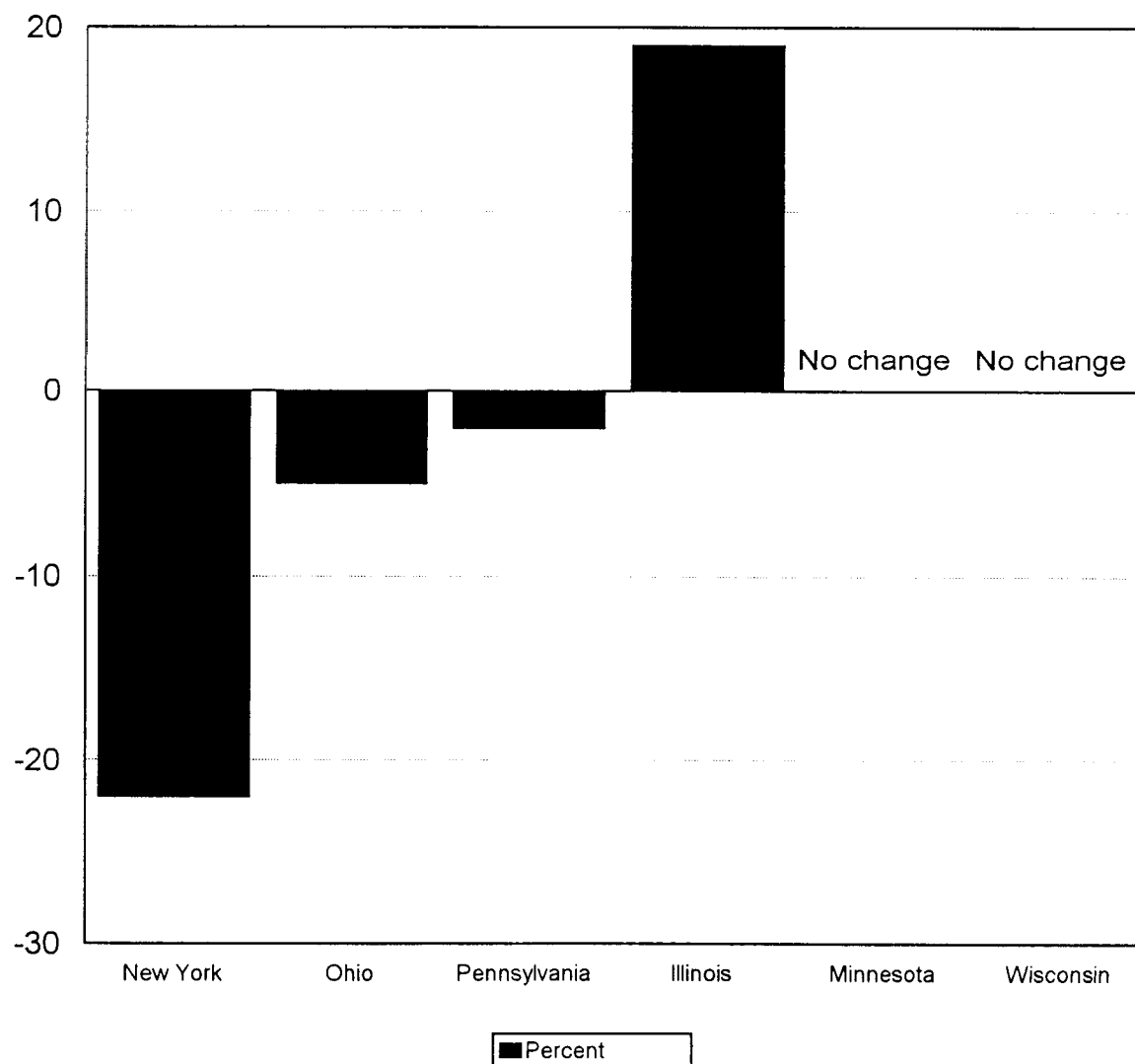
DOD Contract Awards Won by Western New York Firms



Defense Job Changes as a Result of BRAC 93 In Percent

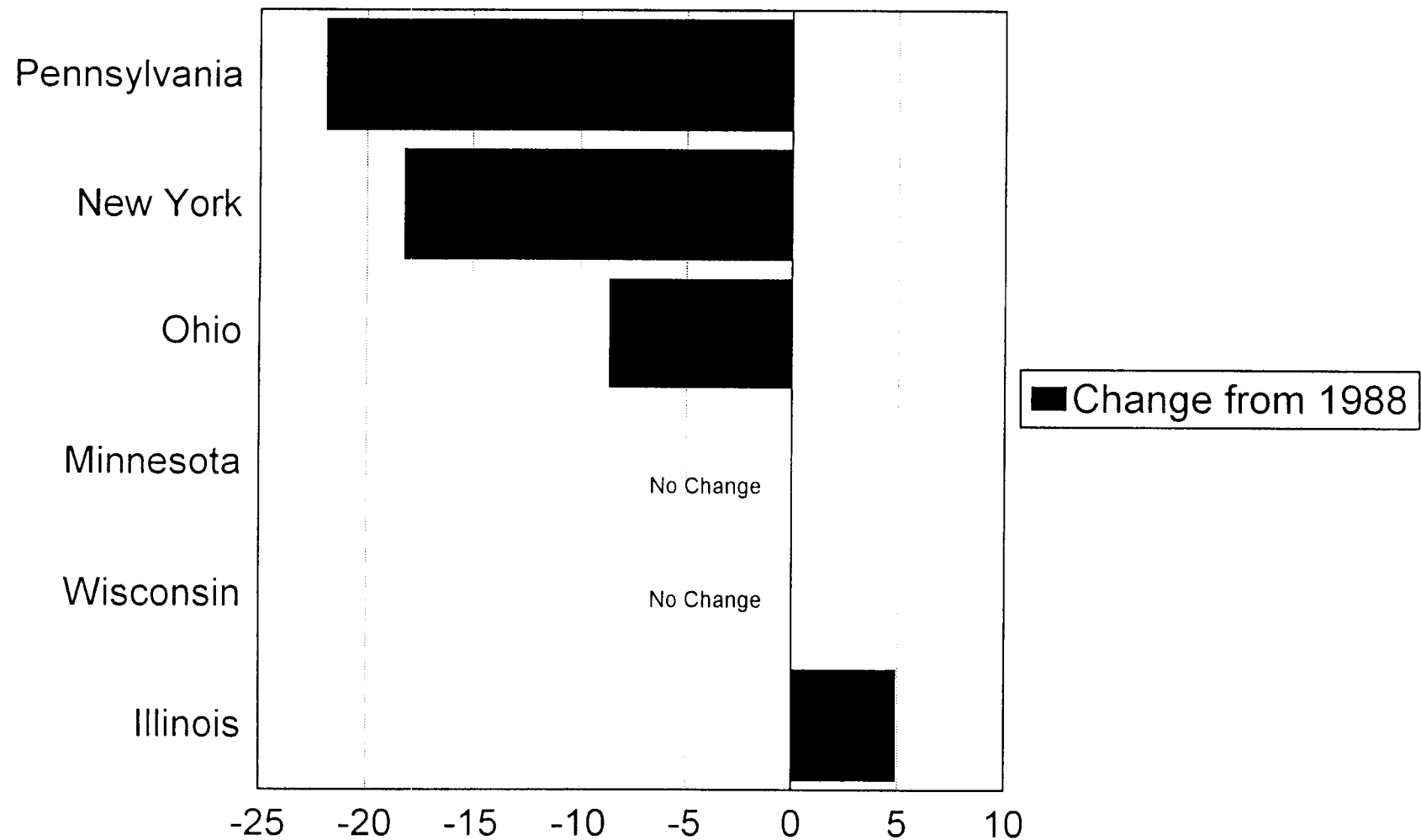
Niagara is competing with Air Reserve Bases in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

While New York lost over 20 percent of its defense jobs in 1993, many states were less severely impacted.



Personnel Changes from the 1988, 1991 and 1993 Base Closures

Percent Change from 1988 Level

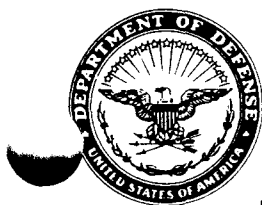


1

2

3

4



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 98TH DIVISION (INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING)
2035 GOODMAN STREET NORTH
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14609-1098

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFRC-TNY-CG (140)

23 May 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR Base Realignment and Closure Committee

SUBJECT: Niagara Falls Air Force Base's Impact on USAR Readiness

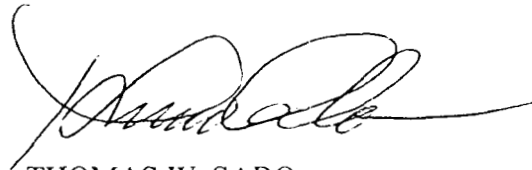
1. The purpose of this letter is to express our concern over the news that Niagara Falls Air force Base is being considered for closure.
2. Currently, a number of the 98th Division units and hundreds of soldiers utilize the facilities at the Air Base to conduct training. The base provides the only location in 200 miles that military training can be conducted in a military installation environment. This is particularly critical for all training done in an academy concept - NCO education, Drill Sergeant training, selected MOS training and officer education.
3. In addition, the Base provides the only inexpensive source in this entire region to conduct seminars or workshops. The availability of billeting coupled with excellent classrooms and support facilities - training areas, gymnasiums, theater (for large group presentations and ceremonies), dinning facility, paved surfaces for the conduct of drill and ceremonies, and large fields for physical fitness training. As a result, it is frequently used for this purpose as well.
4. The closure of Niagara Falls Air Force Base would have a serious impact on this commands ability to conduct training. Closure of Griffiss and Plattsburg Air Force Base and Seneca Army Depot in upstate New York have had detrimental impacts previously. Some of the training previously conducted at those sites has been shifted to Niagara Falls. Their closures have resulted in significant increases in our cost of training. Our limited budgets cannot sustain training of the nature that we perform at the Air Base. Nor are we aware of any facility left in the region, other than Fort Drum, where training of a similar nature could be conducted. The cost of transportation to Fort Drum coupled with the lost training time due to extreme travel hours makes Fort Drum not a viable alternative.

AFRC-TNY-CG (140)

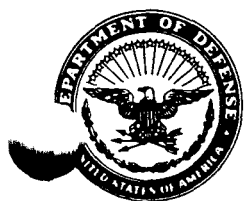
23 May 1995

SUBJECT: Niagara Falls Air Force Base's Impact on USAR Readiness

5. Request you consider the impact closing the Niagara Falls Air Base will have on the many other military units in the area that depend on it to provide a cost effective means to sustain their unit readiness. In addition to the given impact, it will have on the local economy and the readiness of the Air Force Reserve units being displaced.



THOMAS W. SABO
Major General, USAR
Commanding



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MOBILE INSHORE UNDERSEA WARFARE UNIT 214
NAVAL AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE CENTER
3 PORTER AVENUE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14201-1096**

In Reply Refer to

May 23, 1995

Commanding Officer
914th Tactical Airlift Wing
Bldg. 807, 10460 Wagner Drive
Niagara Falls IAP-ARS
New York 14304-5000

Dear Colonel Gerald A. Black:

I am writing this letter to underscore the significance of your unit and the air base in Niagara Falls to the Naval Reserve Unit which I command in Buffalo, New York.

Naval Inshore Undersea Warfare Groups (NAVIUWGRUS) are priority 1A operational echelon IV commands, reporting to Commander Naval Surface Reserve Forces (COMNAVSURFRESFOR). NAVIUWGRUS consist of fourteen Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Units (MIUWU). All NAVIUW forces are commissioned, hardware-equipped, forward deployable units which are sea/air/land transportable. They operate world-wide in remote locations in the littoral environment, providing surface and subsurface surveillance and remote command, control and communications capability for designated fleet and joint commanders. NAVIUW units are extensively involved in fleet/joint exercises and surveillance operations, and were utilized in support of Desert Storm, and more recently in Haiti.

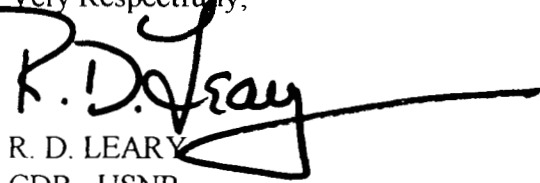
We have no active duty counterpart, and it is important that we be able to deploy within 48 hours. Consideration is being given to reducing the number of MIUWUS on the east coast to ten, and a significant factor in determining the viability of existing units will be proximity to a military air base from which the MIUWU can deploy. This factor played an important role in the location of MIUWU 214 in Buffalo when it was commissioned here in 1990, and plans are underway to break ground this Fall for a new vehicle and maintenance facility to support our operations.

As you know, we recently demonstrated our ability to deploy on short notice, when the 914th Tactical Airlift Group flew our personnel and equipment aboard a C-130 to NAS Jacksonville, Florida in January 1995 for an important training evolution. I could not have imagined a more cooperative effort between the services or a smoother evolution than what took place then, and I am counting on your further support for similar joint ventures, particularly during the winter months when the inclement weather makes it difficult to train our people here. You have also given us the opportunity to utilize some of the more sophisticated equipment of our other units by giving us access to them in other parts of the country.

Needless to say, the financial savings to the government by flying military air as compared to transporting in excess of 60 personnel and equipment by commercial air is substantial. In that regard, I note that plans have been made for the Air Force to deploy my unit outconus from the Niagara Falls Air Base for a forthcoming Naval exercise this summer.

Thus, I cannot overestimate the significance of your unit and the base facilities in Niagara Falls to the preservation of my own unit in the Western New York area, and it is my sincere hope that the Air Base in Niagara Falls be removed from the BRAC list.

Very Respectfully,


R. D. LEARY
CDR USNR

MAY-19-95 FRI 10:29

BEE GROUP NEWSPAPERS

FAX NO. 7166338601

P. 01

85-19-1995 10:14AM

FROM D M N A PRO (NY)

TO

917166338601

P. 02



STATE OF NEW YORK
DIVISION OF MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS
330 OLD NIAGARA ROAD
LATHAM, NEW YORK 12110-2224

GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR
COMMANDER IN CHIEF

MICHAEL B. HALL
MAJOR GENERAL
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governor George Pataki
FROM: Brigadier General John Fenimore, Acting Adjutant General
SUBJECT: Niagara Falls Air Base

One week ago we received news the Niagara Falls Air Base was added to the BRAC list of possible base closures. Niagara Falls is one of six Air Force Reserve C-130 Bases being considered for closing and comes as a shock to those both in the military and business communities.

Currently, the Niagara Falls Air Base is home to two units; the 914th Airlift Wing, an Air Reserve unit (scheduled to close) and the 107th Air Refueling Group, an Air National Guard unit (under your command). The Niagara Frontier's strategic position in the Western Hemisphere cannot be denied, even at a time when the threat of hostile action from old Cold War enemies is at its lowest point in decades. The base's role in supporting the American military must be maintained as part of an overall plan for the 21st Century.

New York State has already sustained more than its fair share of defense spending cutbacks, further impacting the poor State and local economy. In 1951, New York State firms received more than 18 percent of all defense prime contract awards. This figure has tumbled to about 4 percent in 1993.

New York cannot afford the adverse economic impact the Base closure would bring. Our loss of prime contract awards in New York since 1987 has cost New York more than 125,000 jobs. In 1993 when two New York State installations were closed by the Federal Government, it cost the State 22 percent of its Defense Department jobs, the second highest percentage in the Nation. This trend has now led BRAC to the gates of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base, and needs to be stopped.

Post-It [®] brand fax transmittal memo 7671		# of pages 2
To NEIL NOLF	From GEO MEASER	
Co.	Co.	
Dept.	Phone # 632-4710	
Fax # 236-2333	Fax # 623-8601	

On July 1st BRAC will make its recommendations to the President. The deadline is July 15th for the President to either approve the list and forward it to Congress or reject it. Congress can only act on the entire list.

The closure of the 914th Airlift Wing at Niagara Falls would be an economic tragedy to this community. Even though this is an Air Force Reserve unit, we at DMNA will be impacted through some increased State costs to our 107th Air Refueling Group, an Air National Guard unit. Please be assured we remain committed in continuing our efforts to combat the BRAC recommendation pertaining to Niagara Falls Air Base.



CALSPAN
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTER

bc: Col. Gerald Black

25 May 1995

General James B. Davis
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 North Moore Street STE 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear General Davis:

1. The USAF research programs conducted by the Calspan Advanced Technology Center, Buffalo, New York would be seriously jeopardized if the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (ARS) were to close. The 914th Airlift Wing provides significant support in the areas of piloting staff, maintenance, aircraft inspections, liquid oxygen servicing, life support, publications and regulations, plus many other intangible instances of help. The assistance provided by the Air Force Reserves at Niagara Falls ARS permits the DOD research and aircraft operations to be conducted economically on the reduced DOD budget.

2. Calspan's Flight Research Department operates several sophisticated experimental aircraft that perform critical aeronautical research and development for the DOD, NASA and the commercial aircraft industry. Three are USAF aircraft operated by Calspan for the Wright Laboratory, Wright Patterson AFB, OH. All of the aircraft are used to develop advanced military and non-military aircraft systems and designs.

3. The work performed by Calspan's Flight Research Department has gained international recognition in the development of new aircraft over the last 45 years. Virtually every new aircraft design has been flight tested by this group before going into production. The most recent of these include the USAF's F-117, B-2, YF-22, YF-23, and C-17. The Boeing 777 and McDonnell Douglas MD-12 were also first flown on the research aircraft operated by Calspan. These programs involve countless approaches and landings to improve the design and train the test pilots. The Niagara Falls ARS runway is routinely used since it provides minimum traffic conflict between military and civilian aircraft and the air traffic controllers are familiar with military operations.

4. The Flight Research business base represents approximately ten million dollars per year to the company and directly employs 50 professional engineers, test pilots, maintenance staff, plus additional support personnel. The closure of the Niagara Falls ARS would be detrimental to the development of tomorrow's aircraft produced in the United States and would increase their procurement costs. Consequently, we at Calspan urge you to keep the Niagara Falls ARS and the 914th Airlift Wing operational.

Very truly yours,

Jack E. Wagner
Senior Vice President and General Manager
(716) 631-6797
FAX (716) 631-4152

100-12301-1001

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

May 11, 1995

The Honorable Alan Dixon, Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon:

As members of the New York State Delegation in the House of Representatives, we are deeply concerned about the last-minute addition of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to the list of sites that might be included for realignment or closure in the 1995 round.

While all the facts are not in, it appears that the Air Force had recommended closure of the Pittsburgh Air Force Reserve Station, where C-130 aircraft are based, but that both BRAC and the Air Force have now concluded that the actual facts used by the Air Force to make that recommendation were erroneous; and, as a result, five additional reserve stations where C-130 aircraft are based throughout the country are to be analyzed over a six week period.

The 914th Airlift Wing, which is based at Niagara Falls, is an outstanding asset to the Air Force. Last year, the Air Force Reserve gave the 914th a rating of "excellent" for its operational readiness. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is one of the largest and most important employers in all of Western New York, which remains an economically distressed region. The base employs over 4,400 people, with an annual payroll of more than \$56 million and an annual aggregate economic impact in excess of \$100 million.

We are confident that any objective analysis of the base and of that region will result in a conclusion that this base should remain open to serve the nation in the future as it has in the past. Our purpose in writing today is to urge you to ensure that the review now underway is indeed objective, and to express our hope that you and your commission colleagues will ultimately come

Hon. Alan Dixon
Page 2

to share our confidence in the Niagara Falls base and its value
to the United States.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.
Sincerely,

~~John J. Dolan~~

W. McKnight

Carol B. York

Harold D. Miller

Walter J. Miller

John J. Miller

John T. Miller

John T. Miller

John T. Miller

Ernest L. Engel

Gerold Nadler

Wickie Winkler

Walter J. Miller

Thurston Conway

Mike Forbes

Charles St.

Walter J. Miller

Jack Miller

Walter J. Miller

Walter J. Miller

Walter J. Miller

Walter J. Miller

Walter J. Miller

Walter J. Miller

Walter J. Miller

Walter J. Miller

Louise Slaughter

Thompson Manton

Susan Malinowski

Ben R

Ann Houghton

Ben Selman

Major R. C. Cunn

Henry Boehdelt

Joe E. A.

JOHN J. LAFALCE
29TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

2310 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3228
(202) 228-3231

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BUFFALO, NY 14202
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(716) 864-8978

409 SOUTH UNION STREET
SPENCERPORT, NY 14559
(716) 382-4777

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3229

May 12, 1995

The Honorable Alan Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon:

As you know, I am deeply concerned about Wednesday's addition of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to the list of sites now being considered for closure or realignment in 1995.

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station would deal a crippling blow to the economy of Western New York. With an annual payroll in excess of \$56 million, and an overall economic impact of \$125 million, Niagara Falls ARS is the second largest employer in Niagara County, and the fifth largest employer in Western New York. Unlike several other communities whose Air Reserve Stations have been targeted for possible closure, Niagara County has little else to sustain it, in the absence of the Air Base. These economic factors must figure prominently in your deliberations.

The military value of the base has been demonstrated continually. In recent years, the 914th Airlift Wing has been deployed to trouble spots around the world; in the Persian Gulf War, the 914th had a 100% mission accomplishment record, carrying 10,000 tons of cargo and setting a record for consecutive on-time takeoffs. The 914th sent the first Reserve-force aircraft to land at Kuwait City airport after it was secured by the Marines. The unit also has shown its mettle in recent deployments to Bosnia, Somalia, Rwanda, Haiti, Kurdistan, and Panama. Last year, the Air Force gave the 914th an operational effectiveness rating of "excellent," its highest rating.

In addition to the economic and military value of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, several factors ought also to be considered as the Commission evaluates the relative merits of each facility.

- **Geography.** Four of the six C-130 facilities facing closure are in close proximity (less than 100 miles) to another C-130 base which is also on the BCRC list. In these instances, the Commission should strongly consider

Hon. Alan Dixon
Page 2

consolidating the operations of two such bases into a single facility. Most Reservists from the closed facility would still be within reasonable commuting distance of the consolidated facility. No such consolidation would be possible at the Niagara Falls ARS; closure of the base would simply leave hundreds of Reservists stranded, hundreds of miles from the nearest alternative base.

- **Community Support.** Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station has broad support that spans the entire community, from business and political leaders to average citizens. Western New Yorkers are united in their support for the base, and unequivocal about their desire to keep it open. Their views should be taken into account. Likewise, the Commission should strongly consider the views of communities in which there is broad public support for closing a facility. Indeed, I understand that one of the sites on the list, namely the Reserve Unit based at O'Hare Airport in Chicago, was proposed to be closed in 1993 by the community itself because it needed more airport capacity for civilian uses.
- **State Impact.** New York State has already been hard hit by the Base Closure and Realignment process; the only two active duty Air Force bases in New York -- Griffis and Plattsburgh -- were closed by the BCRC, leaving Niagara Falls ARS as the only Air Force installation in the state.
- **Timing.** The sudden addition of Niagara Falls and other Air Reserve Stations to the base closure list leaves them very little time to prepare their case for remaining open. This places them at a disadvantage, compared to other facilities which were given greater notice of their possible closure.

In the coming days, as the Commission begins to review the relevant data on the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, I am confident that these and other factors will clearly demonstrate the value of this facility, and provide an unimpeachable rationale for keeping it open.

My warmest regards for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



JOHN J. LAFALCE
Member of Congress

Copies to the Members of the Commission

ID:

MAY 18 '95 10:55 No.005 P.02

JACK QUINN

30 IN CHARGE, NEW YORK

TRANSITION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

Bureau of the

BUREAU OF TRANSITION AND

WALL & HILL BUILDING 11000 EIGHTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Bureau of the

MINISTER AND HILL BUILDING

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

**Congress of the United States****House of Representatives****Washington, DC 20515-3230**

May 16, 1995

Mr. Alan Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street
Suite 1425
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I am writing this letter to express my great concern over the possible realignment or closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

The Niagara Falls Air Base Station serves as a major employer in the Western New York area. Closing of this base would have a very detrimental effect on the Western New York economy.

Besides the economic effect, the 914th Airlift Wing, which is based at Niagara Falls, has been an exceptional asset to the United States Air Force. Recently, the 914th received an "excellent" rating from the Air Force Reserve for operational readiness. The 914th and the base have recently served our nation well, at a moments notice, when called to serve in both the Persian Gulf and Haiti.

I am confident that an objective analysis of the base and the region will result in a conclusion that this base should remain open to continue to serve our nation in the future as well as it has in the past.

Thank you in advanced for your cooperation and consideration.

Very truly yours,

Jack Quinn
Jack Quinn
Member of Congress

JQ:rd

WASHINGTON OFFICE
423 Congress Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-3306
Fax: (202) 634-1

MAIN OFFICE
401 Main Street
Suite 200
Buffalo, NY 14203-2199
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Fax: (716) 847-1

SATELLITE OFFICE
1190 Jefferson Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 800-4076

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To NEIL NOLF	From GEO MEASER	
Co.	Co.	
Dept.	Phone # 632-4700	
Fax # 236-2333	Fax # 633-8601	



JOSEPH T. PILLITTERE
138th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIRMAN
Committee on Tourism, Arts and
Sports Development

COMMITTEES
Agriculture
Commerce
Environmental Conservation
Energy

May 15, 1995

Hon. Alan Dixon, Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, Va. 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon,

We, the members of the Western New York Delegation, seek your support and assistance in retaining the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. We stand united with local and federal legislators and Gov. George Pataki in demonstrating the vital economic and military role the Niagara Falls ARS plays in New York State.

The facts supporting our position speak for themselves. The Niagara Falls ARS employs 800 civilians and 2,500 military personnel generating over \$125 million in salaries and services. The base is the second largest employer in Niagara County and the fifth largest employer in Western New York. Closing the base will save federal taxpayers \$10.4 million but it will exact a terrible economic toll on the Niagara community and the greater Western New York region.

It is disturbing to think that the Defense Department would shut down a base that it invested \$30 million in the past year. We believe that the department did so because it supported its continued operation. Indeed, airbase personnel have been called on repeatedly to serve missions around the world and have been recognized by the Air Force for its quality in performing those duties. Certainly a base achieving such recognition should remain open and active.

Published reports indicate that four of the six C-130 facilities under consideration for closing are within 100 miles of each other. Consolidation within those bases is far easier than the Niagara Falls ARS which is hundreds of miles from the nearest alternative base. What logic is there in closing a base that would strand hundreds of reservists hundreds of miles away from the next closest facility.

New York State has shouldered sufficient burden in previous base closings. The Niagara Falls ARS is the last Air Force installation in New York. The base admirably serves the community it is stationed in and the nation at large. We request your support in our effort to keep the Niagara Falls ARS open and urge your joining us in ensuring its future.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Joseph T. Pillittere
John M. Walker

Richard Anderson

Henry L. Nash

William C. Stachurski

Thomas McKenquill

Sandra Lee Wirth
S. L. W.

George D. Mazzoni
Francis J. Padden

Paul A. My
Norman L.

May L. Falk
Arthur O. Eve

Dani Beaman
Richard Kene

NIAGARA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

FROM: Commerce, Transportation, & Tourism DATE: 5/16/95 RESOLUTION NO. 238-95
Committee, et al.
 APPROVED AS TO FORM COMMITTEE ACTION LEGISLATIVE ACTION
 NIAGARA CO. ATTORNEY _____
 Approved: Ayes _____ Noes 0
 Rejected: Ayes _____ Noes _____
 Referred: _____
 By _____

OPPOSITION TO AIR BASE CLOSURE

WHEREAS, the direct impact of Niagara Falls Air Force Base on the economy of Niagara County is at least \$125 million annually, and

WHEREAS, the indirect impact of Niagara Falls Air Force Base on Niagara County and on the Niagara Frontier Region is even higher, and

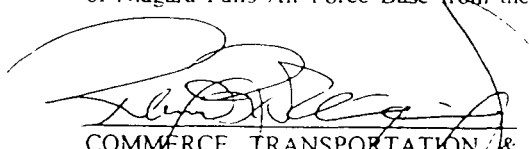
WHEREAS, Niagara Falls Air Force Base is important to the operation of Air Force Reserve and Guard operations in the northeastern United States and especially in New York State because of its status as the only remaining Air Force Reserve Base in New York State, and

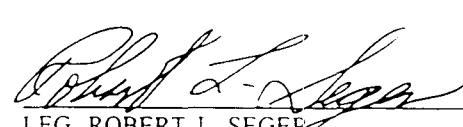
WHEREAS, New York State has not received its fair share of defense expenditures, being the third largest state in terms of population but ranking 47th in defense expenditures, and the closing of Niagara Falls Air Force Base would further widen that gap, now, therefore, be it


RESOLVED, that the Niagara County Legislature hereby strongly requests that the Air Force Base Closure Commission reverse its position and remove Niagara Falls Air Force Base from the list of bases being considered for closure, and be it further

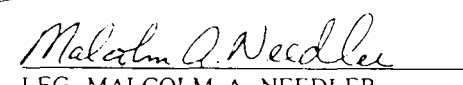
RESOLVED, that all citizens, both publicly and privately, are urged to take any and all actions appropriate to support the removal of Niagara Falls Air Force Base from the potential Base Closure List, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Congressman John LaFalce, Senator Alphonse D'Amato, Senator Patrick Moynihan, and all other members of the Western New York delegation to the United States Congress and all members of the Western New York delegation to the New York State Assembly and Senate are requested to take any and all actions necessary to cause the removal of Niagara Falls Air Force Base from the Base Closure List.

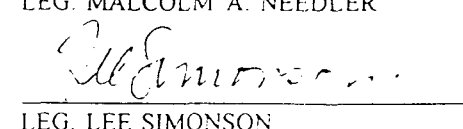

 COMMERCE, TRANSPORTATION, &
 TOURISM COMMITTEE


 LEG. ROBERT L. SEGGER


 LEG. DAVID A. MAY

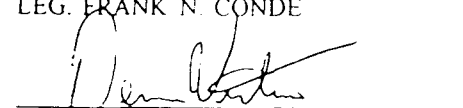

 LEG. MALCOLM A. NEEDLER

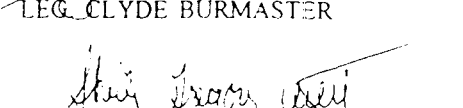

 LEG. RENAE KIMBLE


 LEG. LEE SIMONSON


 LEG. FRANK N. CONDE


 LEG. CLYDE BURMASTER


 LEG. DENNIS F. VIRTUOSO


 LEG. SHIRLEY GREGORY URTEEL


LEG. SEAN J. O'CONNOR


LEG. ROBERT R. VILLANI

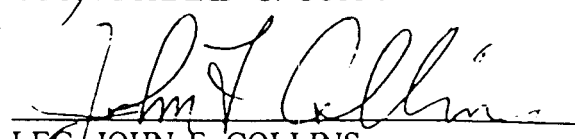

LEG. WAYNE A. LENHART

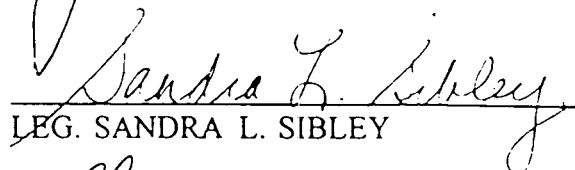

LEG. ARTHUR F. KROENING

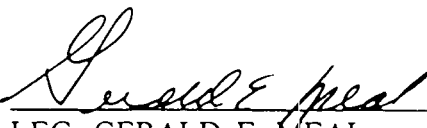

LEG. JOHN TYLEC


LEG. MARGARET F. TRUAX


LEG. RICHARD C. CORICA


LEG. JOHN F. COLLINS


LEG. SANDRA L. SIBLEY


LEG. GERALD E. MEAL



NIAGARA FRONTIER TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
NIAGARA FALLS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

May 26, 1995

Hon. Sean J. O'Connor, Chairman
Niagara County Legislature
Court House
Lockport, New York 14094-2740

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

The Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, as owner and operator of Niagara Falls International Airport (NFIA) is greatly concerned that the 914th Reserve Airlift Wing which jointly uses airfield facilities at the Niagara Falls Airport with civilian and commercial aircraft operators, is under consideration for closure.

The NFTA and the 914th have had a long standing and mutually beneficial relationship. In exchange for unlimited use of the airfield facilities at NFIA, the 914th provides key services that benefit overall airport operations and economics. The services provided by the 914th include Airport Fire Safety and Rescue manpower and equipment, certain airfield maintenance including snow plowing of the main runway and assorted taxiways, maintenance of taxiway lighting systems north of the runway, maintenance of TACAN air navigational equipment, and providing weather observers 16 hours per day 7 days a week. The value of these services as presently provided exceeds 2 million dollars annually. Given historical and projected deficits at NFIA exceeding a million dollars annually the loss of these essential services to say the least are problematic and could overburden the NFTA's limited financial ability to maintain the existing service levels at Niagara Falls International Airport.

Beyond the direct financial and operational impact, Niagara Falls International Airport is a FAA designated reliever airport for Greater Buffalo International Airport and as such provides critical aviation capacity for the total region. The services provided by the 914th at Niagara Falls are vital to the airports' ability to accommodate existing and future expanded aircraft operations. Elimination of these services could result in diminution of airport capacity and cause increased congestion at GBIA thereby limiting future expansion of regional aviation activities.

As you are aware, our business plan calls for significant capital investment in airport improvements as well as ambitious marketing goals. We have been meeting and working with Niagara County officials regularly to mutually target airport development opportunities that would benefit the airport as well as the

Hon. Sean O'Connor

Page 2

May 26, 1995

greater Western New York region. The loss of the 914th including their contribution to the airport could set back these efforts.

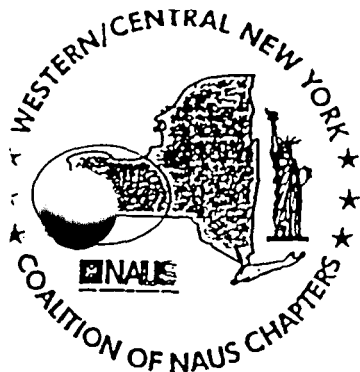
Please pass my concern along to the Base Realignment and Closing Commission. If you need additional information please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,

Richard T. Swist / Ren

Richard T. Swist
Executive Director

RTS/ren/ml



James L. Barnett, Chairman
Western/Central New York Coalition of NAUS Chapters
8421 Buffalo Avenue, B1/A2
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

May 21, 1995

**NAUS STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE RETENTION OF NFARS
AS AN ACTIVE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE INSTALLATION**

The Western/Central New York Coalition of National Association For Uniformed Services (NAUS) Chapters strongly supports the activities of those individuals and groups who are currently working for the retention of Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS) as an active military installation.

NAUS is a non-partisan, non-profit military/veteran organization, which represents all grades, ranks, components and branches of the uniformed services, to include spouses and certain widows. NAUS is the only military/veteran organization that represents the entire military family, including active duty personnel, reserves, national guard, and veterans. The goals of NAUS are the maintenance of a strong, combat-ready U.S. military establishment, more than adequately capable of carrying out the far-flung national interests of the United States. Secondary NAUS goals of NAUS are protecting the hard-earned benefits of veterans and retirees. For the past four years, NAUS has directly participated in a large number of base closures, and NAUS has prepared a "Base Closure Action Kit." The Coalition has amended and updated the NAUS publication to make it more applicable to local conditions. Although the Kit was prepared with larger military bases in mind, it may prove useful in the NFARS case. Copies of the Kit will soon be sent to key groups and individuals working on the NFARS situation.

The Western/Central New York Coalition of NAUS Chapters represents the interests of all NAUS members; as well as all active duty personnel, reservists, guardsmen, and veterans living, and/or, serving within the six congressional districts of western and central New York. These include the 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st C.D.'s. While generally following NAUS goals, the Coalition, under certain conditions, such as the NFARS case, goes on its own, and operates without too much support from NAUS.

Having founded the NFARS Retiree Activities Office in mid-1989, and having served as its Director until mid-1993, the writer was very well acquainted with the capabilities of the 914th Airlift Group in carrying out both national and international assignments. I also became very aware of the attitudes and the expectations of local military retirees. I was well aware that the 914th AG was rated "outstanding" time after time, following periodic Air Force and Reserve Command inspections. In addition, the 914th was recognized as one of the premier units that participated in the Desert Shield/Desert Storm operations, October 1990-April 1991. It would appear that the past record, and the extreme combat readiness of the 914th AG would be one of the strong points in the campaign to save the Base.

Canadian Consulate General



Consulat Général du Canada

May 24, 1995

Mr. John LaFalce
U.S. Congressman
Federal Building
111 West Huron Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

MAY 25 1995

Dear Congressman:

I have been closely following the work of the U.S. Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission since it took the decision early this month to examine the option of withdrawing the Air Force Reserve's 914th Airlift Wing from Niagara Falls, New York.

It is not, of course, my place to comment on an internal political decision of the Government of the United States, but I write at the request of Mayor Jacob Palillo to remind you of the unique contribution the 914th has made to the very close international relationships along our shared border. The military relationship, including training and logistics cooperation as NORAD and NATO allies, will of course already be appreciated by the Board and your office.

You may not, however, be as familiar with the community contribution that the 914th has made to this special Canada-United States cross-border relationship.

I personally know the men and women of the 914th and have been involved in several events in which the 914th made significant contributions to the broader bilateral and multilateral agenda that our countries share and to our unique friendship. I sight some examples:

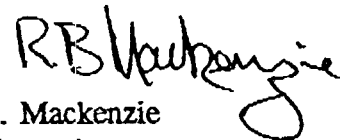
- Logistical support for the 1993 World University Games; hosted by Buffalo with 2 of the 12 events (rowing and womens soccer) held in Canada at St. Catharines and Hamilton
- Support for the Air Shows of the Buffalo-Fort Erie Friendship Festivals; July 1 to 4
- Logistical support for the visit of Canadian General Lewis D. McKenzie at his appearance before the Buffalo Council on World Affairs in January of 1993 to discuss the UN's Bosnia peacekeeping mandate
- Logistical support for Western New York community leaders' visit to Ottawa in September of 1994 to receive briefings on NORAD and Peacekeeping and a Foreign Affairs briefing on Canada-United States relations.

.../2

Page 2
May 24, 1995

You, of course, know what a great domestic asset the 914th has been. I hope you don't mind me saying what great Ambassadors they have also been. If I can be of any assistance in your efforts, please count on me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R.B. Mackenzie", written in a cursive style.

Robert B. Mackenzie
Consul General

cc: Niagara Falls Mayor Jacob Palillo

EDMUND F. MAXWELL
414 U.S. Courthouse
Buffalo, New York 14202-3405

MAY 25 1995

TELEPHONE: 716-551-4231

May 24, 1995

Hon. John J. LaFalce, Congressman
Federal Building
111 West Huron
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: Niagara Falls Air Base

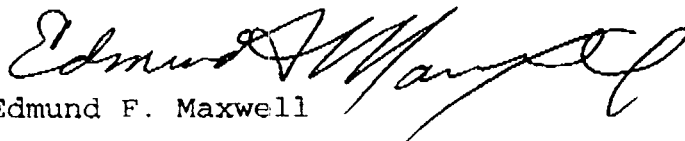
Dear Congressman LaFalce:

I have recently learned that the Niagara Falls Air Base, which houses the 107th Air Refueling Group (ANG) and the 914th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve), is being considered for closure.

I have had occasions over the last few years to have dealings with the personnel of both organizations, and as an Army Air Force veteran, have some knowledge of their activities and mission. While I appreciate that defense spending cutbacks are justified and necessary, I believe that it would be a disservice to the Niagara Frontier and to the country as a whole if the Base was closed. Not only have these organizations performed excellent work in a military sense in Panama, Bosnia and the Persian Gulf, but their humanitarian activities on behalf of the citizenry in this country have been outstanding.

I would request that every effort within your means be made to assure the continuation of these units at Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,


Edmund F. Maxwell

EFM:anm



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Marshals Service

Western District of New York

129 U.S. Courthouse
68 Court Street
Buffalo, NY 14202
May 24, 1995

Congressman John J. LaFalce
Federal Building
111 West Huron St.
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Congressman LaFalce:

I am writing this letter to urge and encourage your support to keep the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base open. I know how busy you are and the demands being placed on you, however, having had the opportunity to personally meet many members of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Group and to become friends with Colonel Jerry Black, Commander of the 914th and Colonel James Burdick, of the 107th, I have come to realize that no other unit or base can possibly duplicate their mission.

As the United States Marshal for the Western District of New York, I am very aware of the goals of Vice President Gore under the "Reinvention of Government", this down-sizing of the military by closing even part of Niagara Falls could cause irreparable harm and effect National Security.

What I see most about the group of men and women who serve at Niagara Falls is a dedication to duty and a willingness to do more than "just a job". We should be proud of these individuals, they have served us well in the very recent past and now I think we as leaders should stand by them and keep this facility open for all our benefits.

You have my support and I encourage yours, should there be something I need to do, please ask. Thanks you for your time, call me.

Sincerely,

John P. McCaffrey
United States Marshal



NIAGARA COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

May 22, 1995

Base Realignment and Closing Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Dear Commission Members:

The Officers and Members of the Niagara County Volunteer Firemen's Association are vigorously opposed to the closing of the Niagara Falls Air Base and the loss of the 914th Airlift Wing of the Air Force Reserve.

The closing would have a devastating impact on the Mutual Aid System of the Emergency Services of Niagara County. This would be especially true for the Communities in the immediate area of the Air Base.

The loss of the expertise of the Air Force Personnel and availability of their equipment would also have a dramatic economic effect on the Fire Companies, Emergency Medical Services and the Niagara County Hazardous Materials Response Team. This, at a time, when the taxpayers of the County are looking for relief from tax increases.

The Association prayerfully requests that the Members of this Commission look with favor on continuing the operation of the Niagara Falls Air Base and retaining the 914th Airlift Wing of the Air Force Reserve.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Yours truly,

Elmer Walter
Recording Secretary
4979 Tonawanda Creek Road
N. Tonawanda, N Y 14120

TOWN OF WHEATFIELD

NIAGARA COUNTY

2800 CHURCH ROAD
NORTH TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14120

OFFICE: (716) 694-6680
FAX: (716) 692-4462
RESIDENCE: (716) 692-7708



TERRY W. KUEHN
SUPERVISOR

May 12, 1995

President
Hon. Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I was appalled to read in the thursday, May 11th, Niagara Gazette that the Federal Government is considering the closure of the Niagara Falls Air Force Base. As you are aware, the loss of military and civilian personnel would be a devastating blow to the already sluggish economic conditions of Niagara and western New York. I realize the responsibility to down size military spending, but also I am very cognizant of the Niagara Falls Base and the importance of its location for the protection of our border to the north. Given the unstable situation in countries like China and North Korea, the closing of Niagara would leave our defenses to the north vulnerable.

Mr. President, any further deliberation of base closings must address as a priority the continued military readiness and the Government responsibility for the continued viability of the affected area. I feel if these two factors are given reasonable consideration, Niagara will continue as a military base of the highest priority.

Thank you for your time and support of the people of Wheatfield. I look forward to your positive support of this issue.

Yours truly,

Terry W. Kuehn
Supervisor
Town of Wheatfield

TOWN OF NIAGARA

COUNTY OF NIAGARA, STATE OF NEW YORK

NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.

7105 LOCKPORT ROAD
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK 14305



PHONE: 297-2150

Date: May 11, 1995
To: James A. Sacco, Supervisor
From: Cindy L. Walsh, Town Clerk
Re: The closing of the Air Force Base at the Niagara Falls International Airport.

At a emergency Special Town of Niagara Town Board meeting conducted on the 11th day of May, 1995 at 4:30 p.m. the Town Board approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the decision has to be made within thirty 30 days of the closing of the Military facilities here in Niagara Falls, New York, and

WHEREAS, there are going to be 2000 employees in jeopardy of employment along with \$54,000,000 in lost salaries which will have a negative impact on the area. This does not include service contracts and other spin-off types of services which will also have a negative impact on the area, and

WHEREAS, this facility is the second largest employer in Niagara County, and

WHEREAS, this area of Western New York is already economically depressed, and

WHEREAS, this facility is strategically located as a defense facility within the Northeastern sector of the United States and has been very active in various military campaigns such as the Veteran War, Desert Storm, Bosnia as well as others.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Niagara Town Board goes on record opposing the closing of the military facility at the Niagara Falls International Airport.

cc: D. Moynihan
A. D'Amato
J. LaFalce
R. Villani

Stanley Klepko
Danny W. Skerbin
Gerardo J. J. J.
Leonard J. Westerman

TOWN OF CAMBRIA

TOWN HALL
4160 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD
SANBORN, NEW YORK 14132-9416



Telephone: (716) 433-7664
Fax: (716) 433-7164

24 May 1995

Sean J. O'Connor, Chairman
Niagara County Legislature
Niagara County Courthouse
Lockport, New York 14094-2740

Dear Mr O'Connor:

SUPERVISOR
Wright H. Ellis

COUNCILMAN
~~Calvin W. Hall~~
Clifford W. Demmin
George J. Bush
Herbert E. Kroening
Robert E. Blackman
TOWN CLERK
Robert L. McCollum

HIGHWAY SUP'T.
'NAGE COORDINATOR
Villard F. Antoncich
(716) 433-8829

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Amel S. Jowdy
Roger L. Devole

WATER/SEWER SUP'T.
BUILDING INSPECTOR
Amel S. Jowdy, Jr.
(716) 433-2468

ASSESSOR
Anthony J. DiChiara

TAX COLLECTOR
Janelle L. Kroening

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Cambria Town Board, stating our unanimous support for keeping the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station open. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station should be kept in operation because it provides a military presence and financial stability for Western New York.

Its importance is twofold: on one hand the 2500 reservists and 800 civilians at the Station provide mobile units for rapid forward deployment and support units for general U. S. force mobilization; and on the other hand, the payroll supporting those civilians and reservists provides approximately \$56,000,000 a year which is spent within the area. Closing the Station would decrease the County's sales tax revenues by an estimated 6% annually. Sales tax revenues provide significant financial support for the local government and their reduction would adversely affect the provision of municipal services.

Several Cambria families are employed at the Station and many residents are Reservists who drill at the Station. The impact on them would be severe. Additionally, the Station fire departments provide mutual aid services to the surrounding community and several training opportunities each year for local volunteer fire companies. Their expertise is invaluable.

The Cambria Town Board calls upon Governor George Pataki, Senators Daniel P. Moynihan and Alfonse D'Amato, and Congressman John J. LaFalce to use their good offices in support of retaining the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

Sincerely,

Wright H. Ellis
Supervisor

WHE/klb

cc: Governor Pataki Senator Moynihan

Motion by Supervisor Shirley R. Conner, seconded by Councilman John Kudla:

Niagara Falls Airbase must be retained because it provides national security and financial stability for Western New York.

Its importance is twofold: on one hand the 2500 reservists and 800 civilians at the base are a barrier to terrorism, especially at the electric power generating heart in Niagara Falls; and on the other hand the payroll supporting these civilians and reservists provides an estimated \$56,000,000 a year in payroll which is spent within the area.

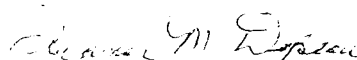
Any effort to close the Niagara Falls Airbase would have a far reaching negative effect, rippling out into the surrounding community and decreasing the county's sales tax revenues by an estimated 6% annually. Since sales tax is the life blood of financial support for the county, cities, villages, and towns in Niagara County, the area would become economically depressed.

The Town Board of the Town of Pendleton calls upon Governor George Pataki, Senators Daniel P. Moynihan and Alfonse D'Amato, Congressmen John J. LaFalce and William Paxon and Congresswoman Louise Slaughter to use their good offices in support of retaining the Niagara Falls Airbase.

Conner, yes; Kramer, yes; Brauer, yes; Kudla, yes; Smigiel, yes.

Motion adopted.

The above motion was adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton at a meeting held on May 17, 1995 at the Town Hall.


Eleanor M. Depeau
Town Clerk

NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Niagara Falls, New York

Regular Board Meeting
May 18, 1995

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CLOSING OF THE NIAGARA FALLS
RESERVE AIR BASE**

RECOMMENDATION:

A motion is recommended for the approval of the following
resolution: Resolution Opposing the Closing of the Niagara Falls Reserve Air
Base.

WHEREAS, The closing of the Niagara Falls Reserve Air Base will
have an extremely serious impact on Niagara County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Niagara Falls Board of Education opposes the
closing of the Niagara Falls Reserve Air Base; and be it further

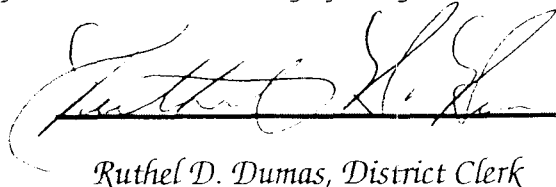
RESOLVED, That the Niagara Falls Board of Education supports
the efforts of other legal governments and the County of Niagara in formally
opposing the closing of the base; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Niagara
County Legislature.

*I, RUTHEL D. DUMAS, Clerk of the Board of Education of the City
School District of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, DO HEREBY CERTIFY
that the aforementioned resolution on Resolution Opposing the Closing of the
Niagara Falls Reserve Air Base is a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by said
Board of Education on the 18th day of May, 1995 and of the whole thereof, and that
the said resolution remains in full force and effect.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed the seal of said
School District and subscribed this certificate on this 23rd day of May, 1995.*

Seal



Ruthel D. Dumas, District Clerk



MBT - FYI

City of Niagara Falls, New York

GUY TOM SOTTILE
Councilman

May 22, 1995

MAY 23 1995

City Hall (716) 286-4306
Residence (716) 285-1977

Honorable John J. LaFalce
United States Congressman
615 Main Street
Niagara Falls, New York 14301

Dear Congressman LaFalce:

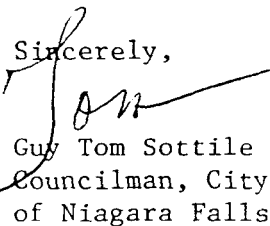
Many thanks for taking the leadership on the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. I am certain the efforts you make for our Niagara Falls Air Base will be an enormous help to the process. The one point that must be made is the critical strategic location on an international border and with the Niagara Power Authority Hydro Electric Plant. Also, the thirty million dollar improvement they are completing.

Guarding our borders is a key factor when we consider recent acts by terrorists. Cutting back is alright, but not for such an important base as the one in Niagara Falls is.

I know how diligently you exert all efforts on our behalf and we are most grateful.

Again, thank you for all of your help in this matter.

Sincerely,


Guy Tom Sottile
Councilman, City
of Niagara Falls

GTS:mw

RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY

LEGISLATOR LENIHAN

MAY 17 4 17 PM '95

RE: OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE NIAGARA FALLS AIR FORCE BASE AND CALSPAN'S R.E.D.C.A.P FACILITY AND THE OFFER OF ASSISTANCE FROM ERIE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EXPERTS

WHEREAS, the downsizing of government at all levels and in all departments must be a top priority for all elected officials in light of over burdened taxpayers and changing economic and employment trends, and

WHEREAS, the federal government's Defense Base Reduction and Closure Commission has recently announced a list of proposed base closings including the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base and the R.E.D.C.A.P. facility at Calspan in Cheektowaga, which is a simulated electronic warfare and missile defense system, and

WHEREAS, Calspan's R.E.D.C.A.P. facility is the only testing facility of its kind in the country that is equipped to allow our Air Force pilots to test themselves and their equipment against soviet style missile defense systems, with its primary focus on the pre-testing, during the development stage, of new air craft and equipment, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base is the only base of its kind in New York State and its closing would mean the loss of 2,500 reservists from across the Western New York area, who are not in commuting distance to another C-130 Base, 60% of whom are Erie County residents, and

WHEREAS, the federal government has invested \$70 million in the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base over the last ten years, \$25 in the last five years, in order to upgrade the facility and its equipment, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base also supports 800 civilian employees in addition to the 2,500 reservists, with an annual payroll of \$56 million dollars, which impacts greatly on the economy of not only Niagara but of Erie and the other six counties in the Western New York Region, and

WHEREAS, Erie County recognizes the importance of maintaining such a successful and respected Reserve Base here in the Western New York area and stand ready to offer professional economic development advice, impact statistics and support as local and federal officials put together their case for the continued operation of the Base, and

WHEREAS, the C-130 Reserve Unit has served our Country admirably as the only reserve unit to serve directly in the Persian Gulf with a 100 percent mission effectiveness as well as supporting all other major world-wide operations including everything from Hurricane Andrew to Bosnia to Haiti and support of the no-fly-zone in Northern Iraq, and

WHEREAS, while Calspan's R.E.D.C.A.P. facility in Cheektowaga, does not have the vast economic impact that the Niagara Falls Air Force Base has, employing about 50 permanent and 25 support employees with a budget of about \$900,000, it has a great strategic defense impact, because of the program's unique nature and advanced technological capabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body goes on record in opposition to the closing of the Niagara Falls Air Force Base and Calspan's R.E.D.C.A.P. facility in Cheektowaga, and supports the efforts, with all the resources of the County's economic development professionals, of Congressman John LaFalce and Niagara County's local elected officials in preparing their case for the continued operation of the Air Force Base, and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to President Bill Clinton, the Defense Base Reduction and Closure Commission, the United States Congressional Delegation, Secretary of Defense William Perry, and the Niagara County Legislature.

Legislator Leonard R. Lenihan

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR SWANICK

**RE: ASKING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NOT TO CLOSE THE NIAGARA
FALLS AIR RESERVE BASE**

WHEREAS, the federal government currently operates the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base in Niagara Falls, on the international border between the United States and Canada, and

WHEREAS, last week, the federal government's Defense Base Reduction and Closure Commission agreed to add the Niagara Falls base to a list of military bases that may face closure, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls base currently employs between 750 to 800 civilian employees, and the base's annual Air Force payroll is in excess of \$56 million, and

WHEREAS, the closure of the Niagara Falls base would impact the local Niagara Falls and regional Western New York economies in a significantly negative manner, and

WHEREAS, closure of the Niagara Falls base is ill-advised, as the base has received in excess of \$25 million from the federal government for base improvements over the past five years, and

WHEREAS, the state of New York has already suffered from prior military base closings and downsizings, with the closure of the Plattsburgh Air Force Base, the closure of most of Griffiss Air Force Base, and with the scheduled closure of the Air Force's Laboratory in Rome, NY, and

WHEREAS, Western New York will learn of the Niagara Falls base's fate on June 22 of this year, when the commission will make its final recommendation as to base closures to President Clinton,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

- 2 -

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby puts itself on record in vehement opposition to the closure or downsizing of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body does hereby recognize that the closure of the aforementioned base will severely negatively impact the local economy of Niagara Falls and the regional economy of Western New York, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body does hereby call upon New York's United States Senators and the New York State Delegation to the United States House of Representatives to follow the lead of Congressman John LaFalce by fighting to save the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base from closure, and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to President Bill Clinton, United States Senators Alfonse M. D'Amato and Daniel P. Moynihan, to United States Representatives Amory Houghton, John LaFalce, Bill Paxon, and Jack Quinn, United States Defense Secretary William Perry, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Senate, and to the Defense Base Reduction and Closure Commission.

CHARLES M. SWANICK

Fiscal Impact: Base closure impact would be severely negative.



TOWN OF AMHERST

ERIE COUNTY, NEW YORK

5583 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, NEW YORK 14221

FAX 716-631-7012

THOMAS J. AHERN
Supervisor
716-631-7032

SUSAN J. GRELICK
Town Clerk
716-631-7045

May 19, 1995

Councilmembers:

JAMES P. HAYES
MICHAEL G. McGUIRE
LYNN MILLANE, Deputy Supervisor
MARGARET G. SANTILLO
JANE S. WOODWARD
PENNY F. ZEPLOWITZ
716-631-7013

Gerald A. Black, Col, USAFR
Commander
914 AIRLIFT WING/CC
2720 Kirkbridge Drive
Niagara Falls IAP-ARS, NY 14304-5001

Dear Colonel Black:

As Supervisor of the Town of Amherst where a number of our residents are employed by, or serve at, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base, I want to go on public record as being strongly opposed to the closing of this outstanding facility.

The Niagara Falls Air Force Base is the only base of its kind in New York State. We would be losing 2500 reservists from across this entire area. They certainly are not in a commuting distance to another C-130 base, and we want to be able to keep that corps of outstanding ladies and gentlemen serving the Niagara Frontier. This region of Niagara County certainly needs the economic impact that the Niagara Falls Air Force Base demonstrates year after year. We want that economic help to continue. It has an impact on Erie County as well as the entire section of Niagara County. There are 800 civilian jobs in addition to the aforementioned 2500 reservists. We want to be able to keep those people in the positions that they so proudly serve.

Your leadership is to be commended and I will speak loudly that your leadership be continued. If you need any further help or assistance, please do not hesitate to call. I will always be at your service as you are to me. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. AHERN
Supervisor

TJA:lw

cc: Congressman L. William Paxon
Congressman John J. LaFalce
Congressman Jack Quinn
Erie County Legislator Brian Rusk
Erie County Legislator William Pauly
Erie County Legislator Michael Ranzenhofer
Erie County Legislator Charles M. Swanick



Printed on
Recycled Paper



May 18, 1995

Congressman John J. LaFalce
Federal Building
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: Possible Closing of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base

Dear Congressman LaFalce:

Please add the Amherst Industrial Development Agency among the list of supporters for keeping open the Air Reserve Base in Niagara Falls. The closing of this base would have a devastating effect on the entire Niagara region.

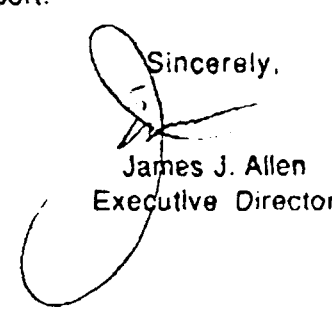
As you well know, Western New York has not been treated well by the many changes in our nation's economy over the past several decades. In spite of this, our community continues to fight back rather than give up and accept that our better days are behind us.

While we continue to work to transform our region into a major international player, our spirit may not be able to withstand another serious blow to our efforts. The closing of the Air Reserve base will be a significant setback to our work. Please do all that you can do to prevent the closing from occurring.

If there is anything that you can recommend that we do to keep the base open, please let us know. I can assure you that we will do whatever you suggest.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



James J. Allen
Executive Director

417 Wurlitzer Drive
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

The Honorable Patrick Moynihan
U.S Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Moynihan:

We are writing on behalf of the Reserve Officer Association, Chapter 74, and the Air Force Sergeant's Association, Chapter 177, Niagara Falls IAP-ARS, New York, to request your assistance with the recent announcement that the 914th Airlift Wing will be re-evaluated by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRACC). There are a few points of interest that you, as our representative, need to be aware of.

As you know, there are eight items that make up the selection criteria. Of the eight, there are two of particular importance that need to be addressed in greater detail; specifically, items 6. and 7., which deal with the "Impacts" on the community.

As Niagara Falls' second largest employer, the loss of the follow on generation dollars in an already declining community would be catastrophic. This is the obvious affect. The other indirect loss to this community would be the base as a resource (people, knowledge, and facilities). We doubt there is another base in AFRES that has developed the partnering and commitment within the community like Niagara Falls ARS has.

The manufacturing base continues to erode, since the closure of the steel industries in the 1970's. Employment at local factories has dropped 54.35 percent in the last 37 years. For example, 194,300 people worked in manufacturing in January 1955. Today, only 88,700 hold industrial jobs. The manufacturing base of Buffalo and Niagara Falls has been cut by more than half. Manufacturing is in serious trouble in western New York and the last thing this region needs is to lose another major employer.

When the 914th started its journey down the road of continuous improvement, we never realized the depth and breadth of total quality. Attached is a listing (Atch 1) of all the companies in the greater Niagara and Buffalo communities that we have partnered with in some type of continuous improvement. We would like to highlight just a few of them at this time.

In 1993, the 914th joined forces with the UAW/FORD Motor Company's Buffalo Stamping Plant in developing a training program for their natural work team leaders. Utilizing our joint resources and knowledge, our team developed a training program that has been recognized nationwide as a tremendous success in helping team leaders set meaningful goals, conduct effective meetings and build efficient teams. This program was instrumental in helping the Stamping Plant maintain its Q1 certification status within Ford. The fruits of efforts were documented on a 16 minute tape (enclosed) that was presented at the national plant manager's conference in Anaheim, CA., in January 1995.

Three years ago, members of the 914th Airlift Wing, 107th ARG (tenant unit), Carborundum Company, and Niagara Falls School Board saw a need in the community to share and teach quality to improve the quality of life. As a result, the Greater Niagara Quality Council was formed. Our mailing list is approximately 500 individuals and companies in the Niagara and Buffalo communities. The airbase serves as the hub of this council; monthly meetings are held at the consolidated open mess from 3-4:30 pm. As a result of this reaching out to the community, the 914th has begun a mentoring program

with the management of Niagara County. Topics of our presentations cover subjects such as leadership, meeting dynamics, strategic and long range planning, team and group dynamics, problem solving and process improvement. Although relatively new to the county, there has been an overwhelming response for more sessions. The value to the county has been to help educate and coach their managers at a minimal cost to the taxpayers.

This summer, the 914th is working with the City Mission to refurbish inner city dwellings for the economically disadvantaged; the program's name is Habitat. Reservists, primarily from our Civil Engineering Squadron, are donating their time and knowledge to assist the City Mission of Buffalo and the community in accomplishing this task.

I could recite many more examples of our involvement in western New York and the Niagara community, but the point I wish to make is one of commitment and responsibility. We realize the responsibility we have in defending our nation and the commitment to follow it through, as shown by our involvement in Desert Storm/Desert Shield. However, we here at Niagara, also feel a responsibility to improve the quality of life for the residents of this community. Training for war is not our only source for being. Our mission involves global reach; providing airlift support throughout the world. To successfully accomplish this task you need commitment, responsibility, leadership and caring. If we don't care about our people and communities, we will be caring for them in the future. We choose to be the leaders in this community and with your *support and involvement* we will continue to do so.

We stand ready to assist you with any information and/or data you need to insure the 914th remains here in Niagara Falls. I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Glatz, President
Reserve Officer Association, #74
Niagara Falls IAP-ARS, NY

Steven D. Roberts, President
Air Force Sergeant's Association, #177
Niagara Falls IAP-ARS, NY

Atch 1

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

865th MASH Reserve Unit
Army Corps of Engineers (Buffalo)
Better Business Bureau of Buffalo
Bob Gibbs Associates, South Yorkshire, England
Calspan, Inc.
Carborundum Co.
Carleton Tech
Delphi Corporation (Harrison Radiator)
Defense Contracting Management Office
General Motors Inc.
Jack Frost Food Brokers
Lockport Memorial Hospital
Moog, Inc.
Mobil Oil
Mt St Mary's Girl's School
Mt St Mary's Hospital
Mt View Nursing Home (Niagara County)
Nabisco, Inc.
Niagara County Department of Social Services
Niagara County Department of Public Health
Niagara Falls Board of Education
UPS

TRAINING AFFILIATIONS

Cummins Engine	Hyatt Regency
Corning Glass	Kodak, Inc.
Dunlap Tire	Marine Midland Bank
Fisher Price, Inc.	National Fuel
Ford Motor Co.	Niagara Mohawk
General Mills	Carborundum Co.
Gibraltar Steel, Inc.	Outokumpu American Brass
Gould Pump	Blair Miller Associates
Graphic Controls Corp.	

MEMBERSHIPS

American Society for Quality Control
Greater Niagara Quality Council
Western New York Trainers Forum

RELOCATION SERVICES FOR PROFESSIONALS, INC.

36 HOPKINS ROAD
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221
1-800-252-2240 or (716)633-8300
FAX 716-633-8300

May 23, 1995

John J. LaFalce
Federal Building
Buffalo, New York 14202
Dear John:

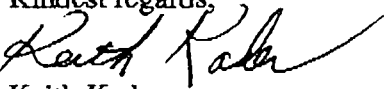
We support your continued work on saving our Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.

The 914 Airlift Wing did a super job in Dessert Storm, the members of their crew are an asset to this nation's defense and will have no where to train if they loose the base.

Our area has suffered economically, an additional loss of 50 million plus in payroll would add insult to injury.

Keep up the good work!

Kindest regards,



Keith Kader

6744 Rose Court
Niagara Falls, New York 14304-4508
May 19, 1995

Base Realignment and Closing Commission
1700 N. Moore Street
Arlington, Va. 22209

Re: Potential Closure--Niagara Falls Air
Reserve Base

Dear Sir/Madam:

The purpose of the correspondence is to solicit your support for the retention of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base based upon economical and military considerations.

This Base supports two of the most efficient and most activated Air Force Reserve & Air National Guard units in the Country. Their combined histories show involvement in the Korean, Pueblo and Cuban crisis, the Dominican Airlift, Vietnam and Desert Storm service in addition to others. This does not include the Air Force missions flown by reservists and guardsmen with the support of their employers. Our community is rightfully proud of our reserve units. Upon careful review you will find this base to be one of the most cost effective facilities in the Country. In addition to their operations this facility lends support to other units to effectively utilize the scarce defense dollar.

The employment situation in the Western New York area is of great concern because of the exodus of major companies and organizations. We are losing our younger and well educated people because of the lack of employment opportunities. High paying positions are giving way to minimum paying jobs.

The economic development of the Western New York area depends upon the availability of the Niagara Falls International Airport. Without the support of the Air Reserve Base the future of the airport is very doubtful. With the failure of the airport comes the potential of relegating this area to a "rust belt" future - more dismal than ever in the history of the Niagara Frontier. The demise of international capability at the Airport will discourage many prospective Canadian industries from relocating to this area. The Niagara Frontier is endowed with many institutions of higher learning, cultural opportunities and a technically competent work force. Examination will reveal that this area is one of the lowest cost areas in the United States.

I am fortunate to have had years of experience with both the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units at Niagara. I now serve on the Town of Wheatfield Economic Development Committee and Chair the Town's Planning and Zoning Board and can speak from experience the need for preserving and promoting the retention of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.

I am concerned that the Base officials have been placed at a disadvantage by finding out of the possibility of closure long after other locations. This means they have less time to prepare a comprehensive and fact filled presentation. I trust you will be tolerant of this situation.

Letter R. W. Muscatello, Dated May 19, 1995, Subj: Potential Closure—Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base, continued

The decision your Committee makes will have a profound effect on all the citizens of this area. Jobs, opportunities, taxes, devaluation of properties to name a few. The loss of jobs increases the number of citizens seeking welfare and unemployment monies which, you well know, increases the federal expenditures.

Trusting your careful and diligent efforts, I remain,

Sincerely,

Richard W. Muscatello
Richard W. Muscatello

May 19, 1995

Dear Government Officials,

I love where I ~~live~~ in Western New York but it breaks my heart how industry is shutting down one after the other and now you want to take away the Air Base which is such an important part of our economy. It is such a big area and there is plenty of room to have the transports come and go.

Please do not close the Air Base for the sake of our economy in Niagara County.

Sincerely,
Betty Thiel

Town Supervisor
Terry Kuehn
Wheatfield Town Hall
2800 Church Road
North Tonawanda, New York 14120

16 May 1995

Dear Mr. Kuehn:

I am opposed to the closing of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. I had started working at the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base three years ago. This closure will mean a loss of family income needed for our survival.

It absolutely appalls me that the base will be forced to close its doors. The Air Base is busy pretty much all year round. Incidentally, it is not easy finding another job in this area of Niagara Falls. If it weren't for this Reserve base, I would not be working.

Too many people will be caught in the middle if approval of this closing is passed by Congress. Many current employees will have no where to go for a new job, and in some cases may even have to subsidize on public assistance. This obviously would be defeating to the Federal Government who sees public assistance as a burden to society. The working middle class is dwindling in the United States, and taking away more and more jobs is the symptom, the causes are budget cuts to make up for debts we did not as common citizens incur.

The Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base has become part of my life. If it does indeed close, a part of my life will be ripped away from me. Is there not some way this Base's doors could be kept open? Closing the doors to this Reserve Base will most certainly devastate the entire Wheatfield/Niagara Falls area. People will lose jobs, tourist income will drop, and a major part of this area's patriotic pride will die.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Frances M. Poturalski

Mrs. Frances M. Poturalski
7174 Winbert Drive
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

OPPORTUNITIES

UNLIMITED OF NIAGARA

Choices and Chances for People of All Abilities

May 26, 1995

Mr. Sean J. O'Conner, Chairman
Niagara County Legislature
Courthouse
Lockport NY 14094-2740

Dear Mr. O'Conner:

As you gather information regarding the Niagara Falls Air Force base and the consequences on the community if it is ultimately closed, I would like to make you aware of Opportunities Unlimited of Niagara's long association with the base.

For over 12 years Opportunities Unlimited of Niagara has provided food service attendants to the Air Force personnel. Of the 35 people who provided these services, 12 are developmentally disabled. Also for more than seven years, we have been providing janitorial services, five days a week, at several of the buildings on the base. Of the 8 people who provide these services, 5 are developmentally disabled.

These consumers would be adversely affected if they were to lose their positions. Quite obviously we oppose the base being closed, and we are ready, willing and able to join in to convince the powers-to-be of this fact. If the base is closed, not only will the community be devastated, the lives of people with developmental disabilities, innocent bystanders, will be ruined.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED OF NIAGARA



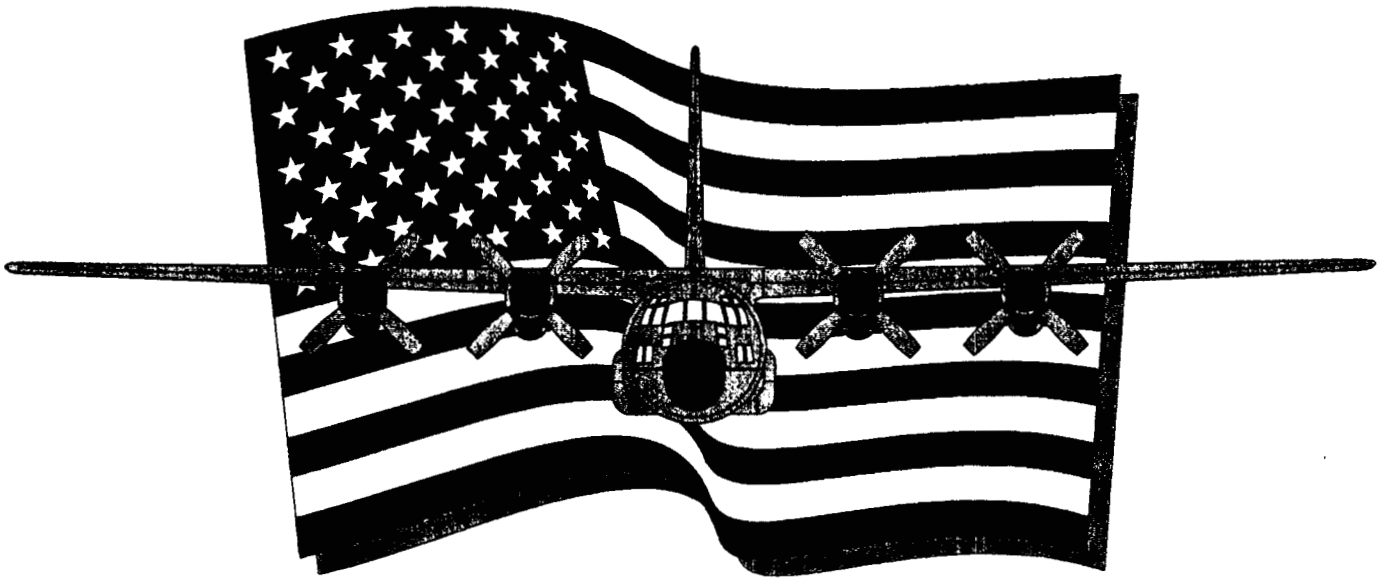
Bruce A. Shields
President and Chief Executive Officer

BAS/mt

cc Rick Seckins

Document Separator

Niagara Falls Air Force Base



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
AIR FORCE RESERVE

2 June 1995

Chairman Alan J. Dixon
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Chairman Dixon:

On behalf of the citizen Airmen of Niagara and the 914th Airlift Wing, we wish to express our resolve in continuing to support the Air Force Reserve. The 914th AW has performed in an exemplary manner, and is unparalleled in its mission accomplishments within AFRES, both in wartime and peace.

After review of our presentation we are certain the Commission will be convinced that our unit remains a vital part of the U.S. Air Force Future structure. Our people stand as the most valuable asset we can offer. They are truly professional, conscientious and dedicated to the mission. We are fully prepared to support the Air Force and the nation, whenever and wherever called.

The Commission has a difficult task ahead, however we are convinced that your review of our position will result in a profound understanding of our pride in the Air Force Reserve, our installation, and our home here in WNY. With your support we will continue to perform our mission into the 21st century.

USAFR



GERALD A. BLACK, COL,

Commander



NIAGARA FRONTIER TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

438 Main Street ♦ Buffalo, New York 14202

(716)-856-2026 ♦ FAX (716)-856-3203

June 1, 1995

Alan J. Dixon, Chairman
Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission
1700 N. Moore Street
Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Subject: Air Quality Status
Niagara Frontier Region

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Please be advised that the Erie-Niagara Counties Region of New York, originally designated a marginal non-attainment area for ozone, has succeeded in demonstrating attainment by its target date of November 15, 1993. These findings were published by the US Environmental Protection Agency in the Federal Register/Vol. 59, No. 144/dated July 28, 1994. Official re-designation to a Maintenance Area is pending formal request by New York State to EPA.

If we can be of further assistance, please advise.

Very truly yours,

Edward H. Small, Jr., P.E.
Staff Director

EHS/tbb



**NIAGARA COUNTY
LEGISLATURE
COURTHOUSE
LOCKPORT, NEW YORK 14094-2740**

SEAN J. O'CONNOR
Chairman

JAMES K. McGINNIS
Clerk
(716) 439-7000

May 31, 1995

Senator Alan J. Dixon, Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Chairman Dixon:

On behalf of the citizens of Niagara County, I request that the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission take positive action to remove the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the list of bases to be closed as part of the 1995 round of closures and realignments. The 914th Airlift Wing fills a wide range of vital societal and economic roles in the Niagara Frontier community, and more importantly, performs an important role in the overall mission of the Air Force.

The strong military role of the 914th Airlift Wing is described in more detail in other venues, but I feel compelled to mention the unit's outstanding record. I refer to the 914th's pivotal role in recent contingencies such as Desert Shield/Storm, Bosnia, Turkey, Somalia and Haiti, and their 100 percent mission efficiency in these roles.

The Niagara Falls ARS serves a vital role in our community, being fundamentally involved in many activities ranging from TQM and other quality training and management programs to involvement in the County's Fire Mutual Aid Program, and from HAZMAT response to increased drug awareness education.

Finally, it should be pointed out that closure of the Niagara Falls ARS would have a strong negative impact on our economy and the Niagara Frontier. The base has the second-largest payroll in Niagara County, and the direct impact of the 914th on the County's economy is significant, nearing \$65 million.

For these reasons, we, the citizens of Niagara County and the Niagara Frontier, request that the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommend the continued full operation of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and the 914th Airlift Wing.

We thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sean J. O'Connor".

Sean J. O'Connor, Chairman
Niagara County Legislature

Contents

Overview	1
Military Value	2
Cost Considerations.	3
Impact on the Community.	4
Personnel Training and Retention.	5
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914th AIRLIFT WING

..... first in PEOPLE,

..... first in READINESS,

..... first in SERVICE.





Presentation By

The Niagara Home Base Alliance
to
**The 1995 Defense Base Closure
and Realignment Commission**
on
The 914th Airlift Wing, USAFR

June 3, 1995



OUTLINE



- I. Introduction**
- II. Military Value**
 - People
 - Experience
 - Location
- III. Cost and Budget Issues**
 - COBRA-Related Issues
 - Corrected Data
- IV. Economic and Community Impact**
 - Niagara Falls and Niagara County
- V. Personnel Training and Retention**
 - Recruiting Radius
 - Retention
- VI. Conclusion**



Introduction



Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (ARS)

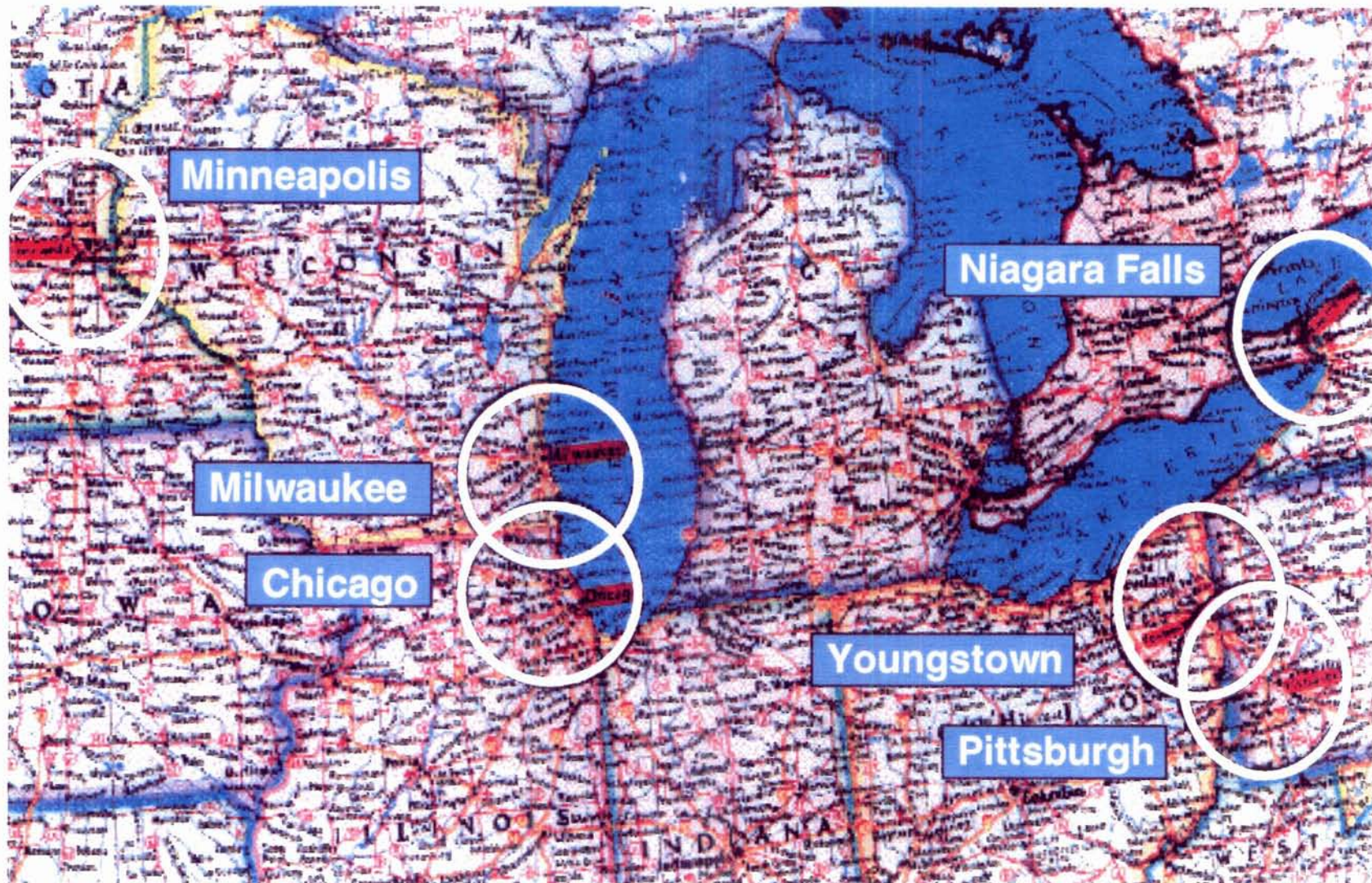
- Located on 987 acres of land, 6 miles East of Niagara Falls, New York on the North side of Niagara Falls International Airport

914th Airlift Wing

- 8 C-130 H3 Aircraft
- 340 Full time civilian employees
- 143 Officers assigned; 1,157 enlisted personnel
- 57 Full time contract employees

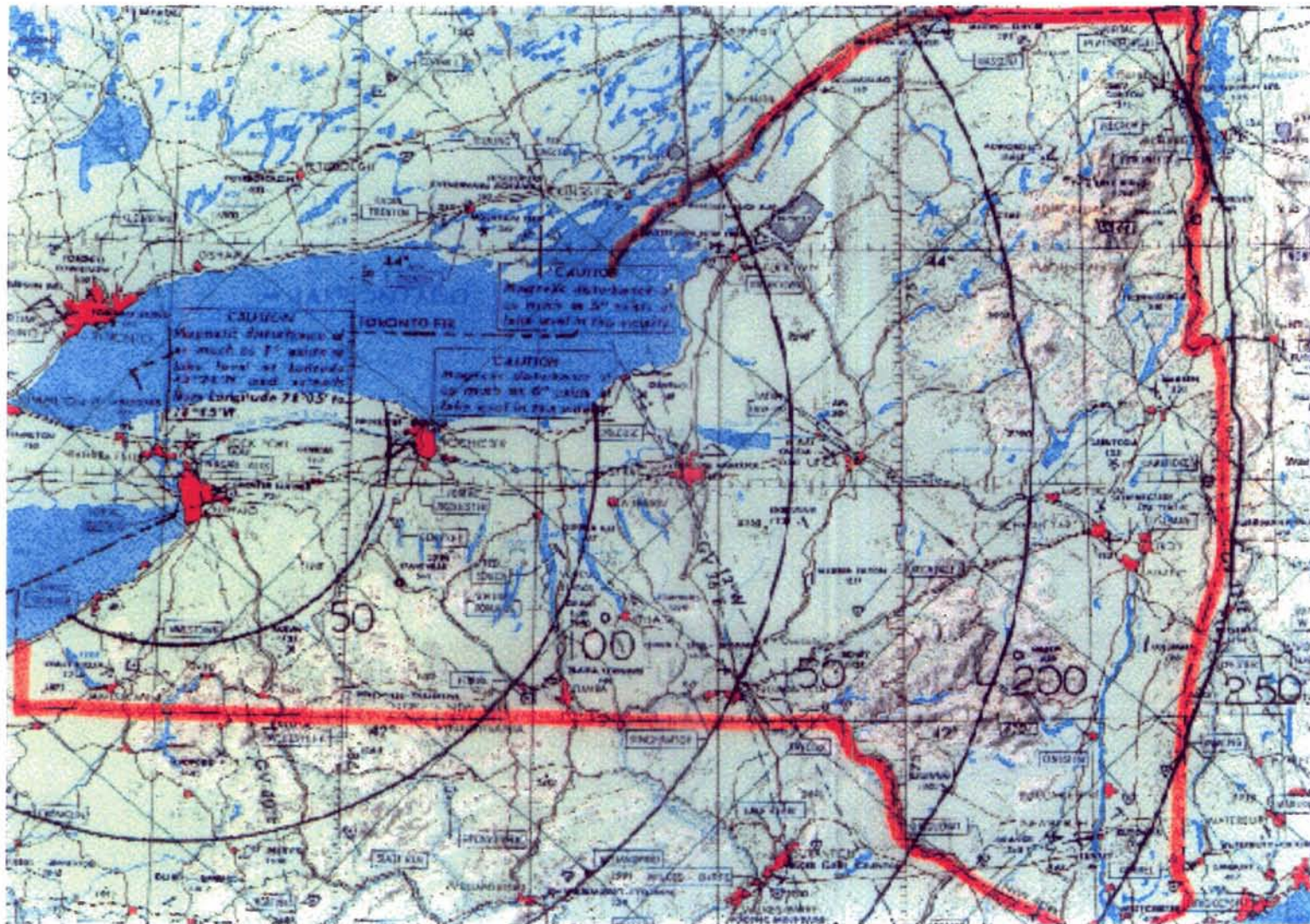


C-130 Bases Under Consideration





914th Airlift Wing Reaches Out from Western New York



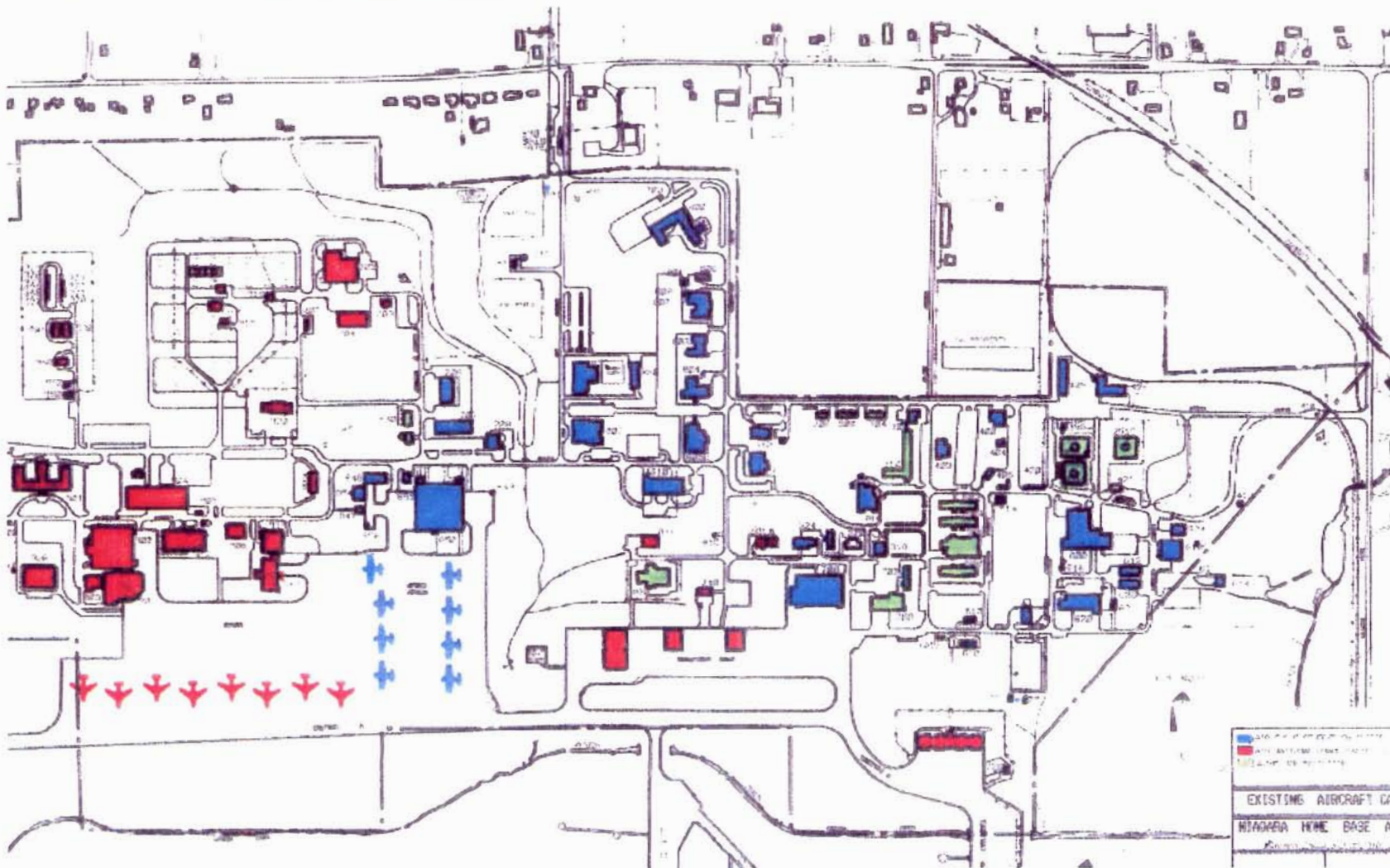


Niagara Falls IAP / ARS





Niagara Falls IAP / ARS







Niagara Falls ARS/914 Airlift Wing Military Value



Mission Statements

WAR TIME

Provide trained combat aircrews and aircraft capable of deploying and transporting personnel and equipment in response to worldwide hostilities. Provide evacuation capabilities, support aircraft landing operations on unimproved airstrips and airdrop operations in formation or single ship, on both day and night sorties.

PEACE TIME

Provide for the overall command and direction, planning, staff supervision and management of Air Force Reservists while providing operationally ready aircraft, crews and support personnel for training and humanitarian missions as directed by AFRES, 10th Air Force and the gaining major command.



914th AW

Contingency Support



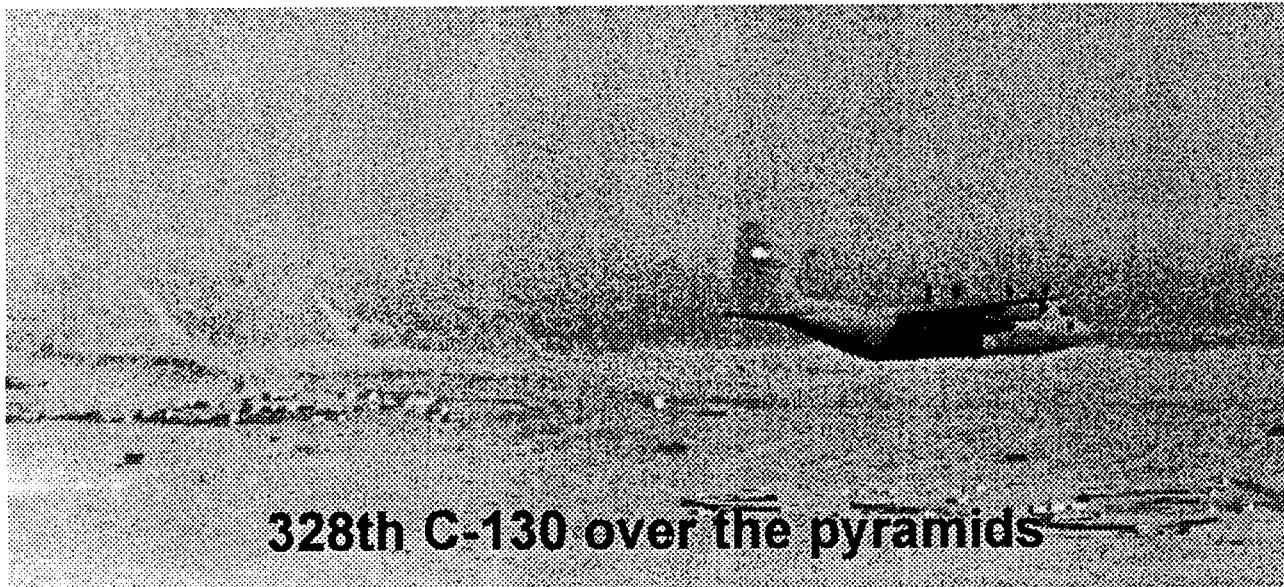
- **Desert Shield/Storm Oct 90 - Apr 91**
 - Among the six AFRES units under consideration, the 914th had the most extensive presence in the AOR
- **Provide Relief (Somalia) - 1992**
- **Provide Promise (Bosnia) - 1993-1994**
- **Provide Comfort (Turkey/Iraq) - 1994**
- **Restore Democracy (Haiti) - 1994**
 - Designated as Lead Unit for Combat Air Insertion element
- **Uphold Democracy (Haiti) - 1994**
 - Provided 10th Mtn Div troop insertion into Haitian AOR



Humanitarian and Operational Support



- Volant Pine Lead Unit (England) - 1991
- Hurricane Andrew Relief (Domestic) - 1992
- Exercise BRIGHT STAR (Egypt) - 1993
- Volant / Coronet Oak (Panama) - Continuous



328th C-130 over the pyramids



Record of Performance



- **The 914th Airlift Wing has a combat tested, highly reliable record of performance:**
 - **Six contingencies and four operational / humanitarian support missions**
 - **2,900 sorties / 4,800 hours / 100% mission effectiveness during Desert Storm**
 - **Recognized by AFRES for exceptional expertise**
 - **32 Years and 110,000 accident-free flying hours**



Achievements



- **Consistent participation in real-world contingencies**
- **Converted from C-130E to C-130H2 to C-130H3 (1992-1994)**
- **Exceptional performance in an Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI - 1994)**
- **No AFRES C-130 unit has received a higher rating in the last nine years.**

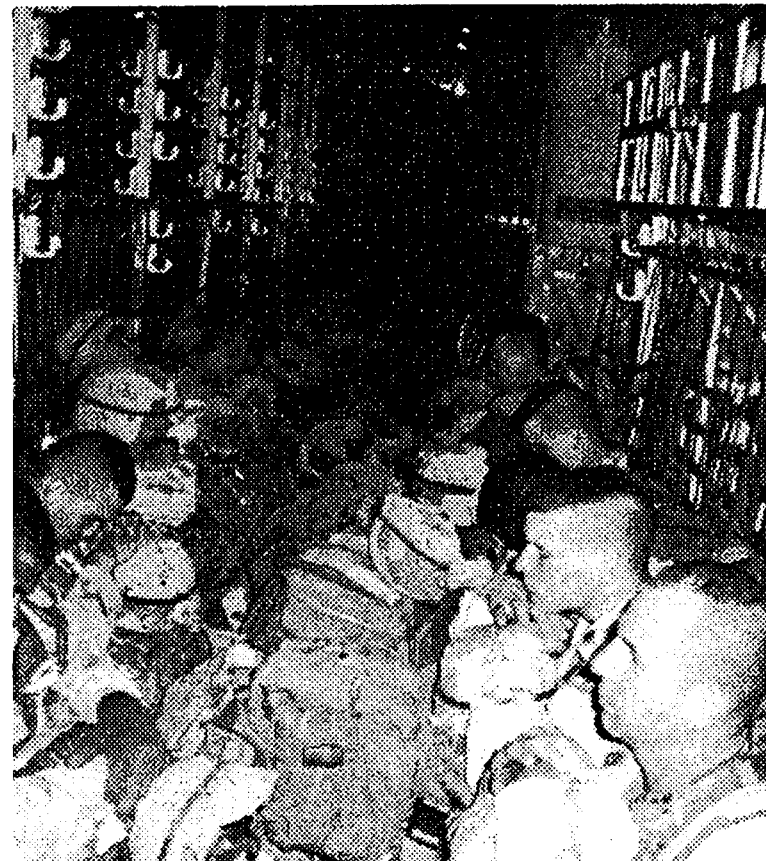


Peace Time Training Role and Contributions



The 914th Airlift Wing provides support to the Army at Fort Drum, as well as the Navy, Marine Corps, and National Guard.

- **Our location provides unique opportunities to maximize joint service training**





Summary of FY 95 Routine Joint Training Scheduled and Completed



UNIT SUPPORTED	AIRDROPS	DIRT ASSAULTS	AIRLANDS	LOAD TRAINING
10th Mtn Div Ft Drum, NY	32	22	38	32
109th Airlift Gp Schenectady, NY	87			
25th Marines Stewart, NY	10			
3Bn, 25th Marines Buffalo, NY			8	8
US Navy Undersea Warfare Unit-214 Buffalo, NY			2	2



914th Drop Zones & Landing Zones

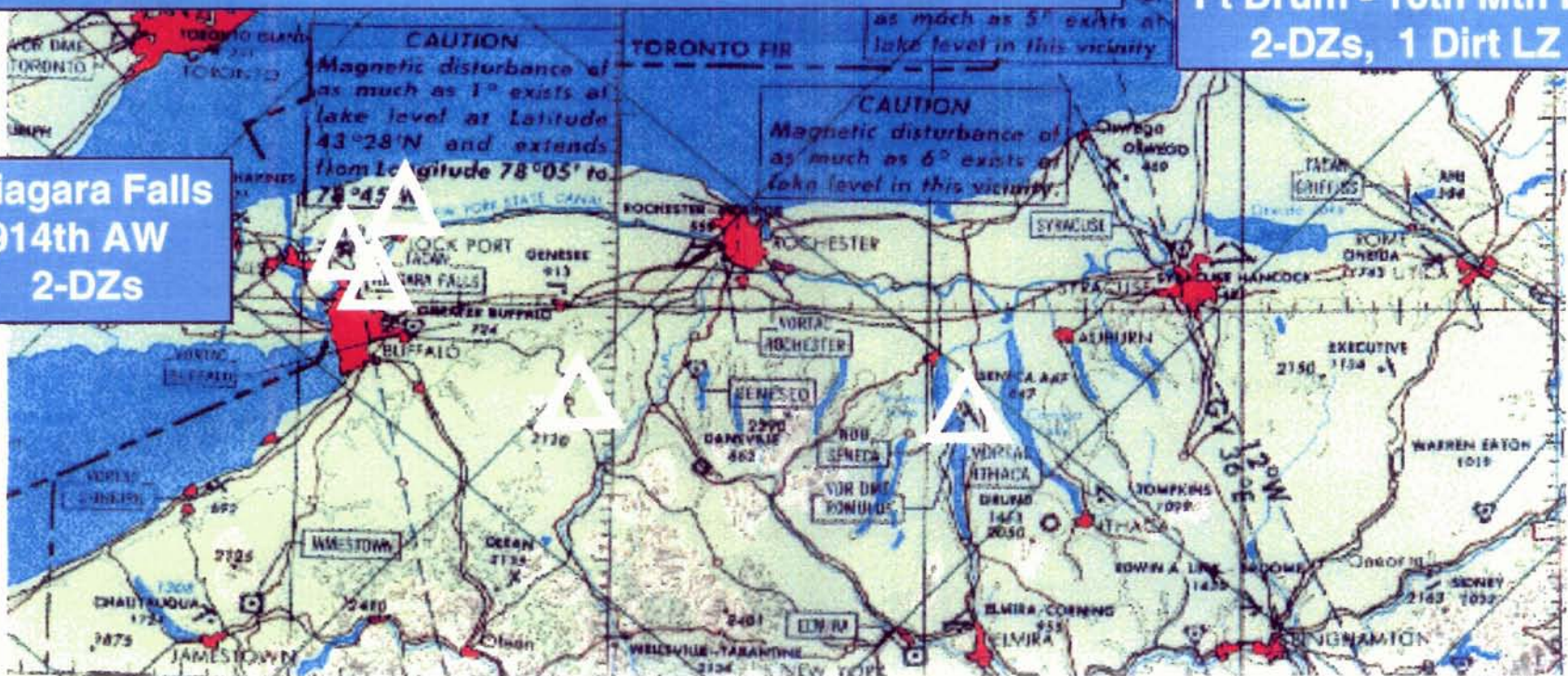


- Two drop zones on-base
- Four drop zones within 40nm of base
- Seven drop zones within 150nm of base
- Dirt assault strip at Ft Drum, within 150nm of base
- All DZs and LZs on Gov't land, no cost for use



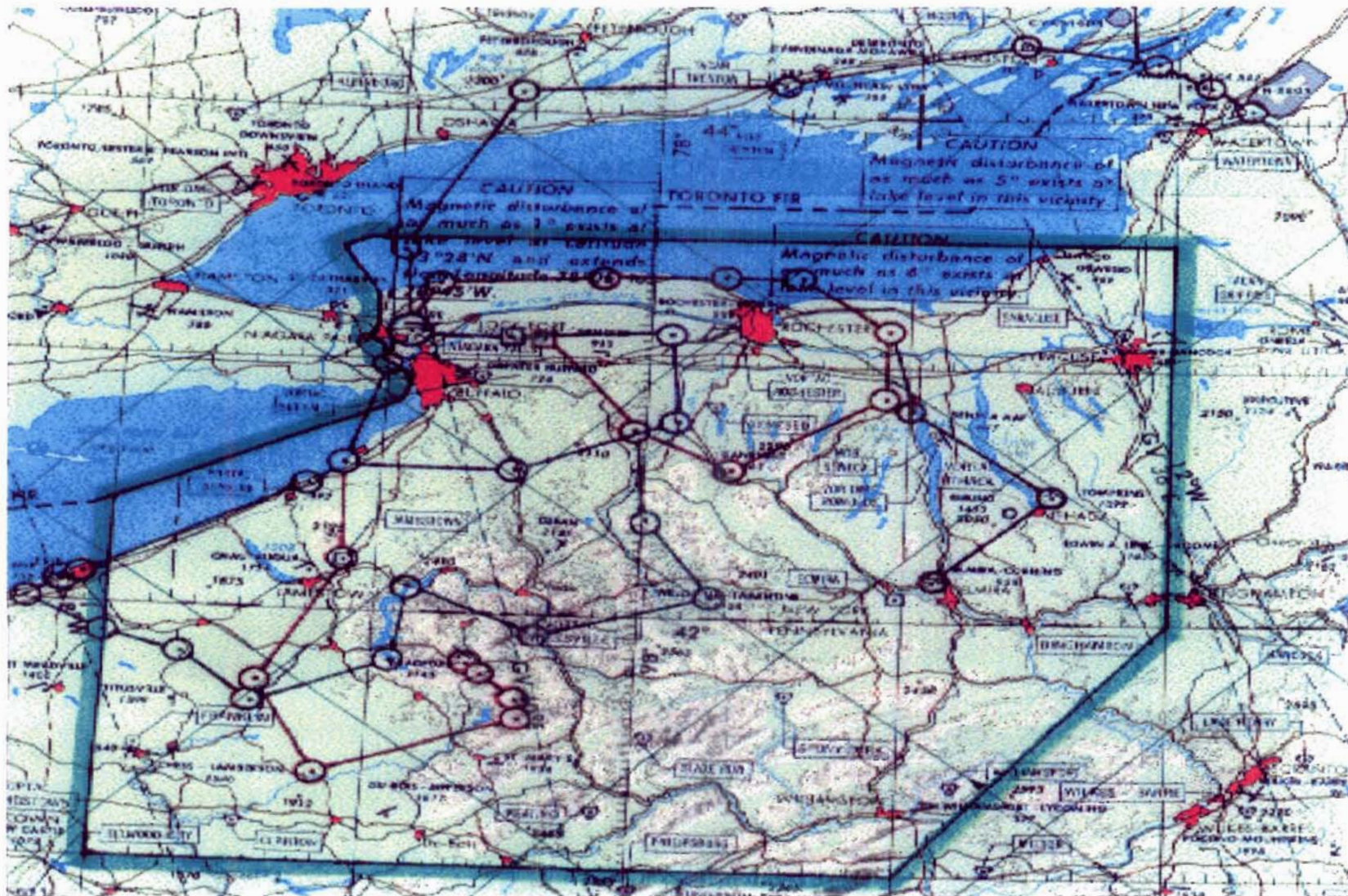
Ft Drum - 10th Mtn Div
2-DZs, 1 Dirt LZ

Niagara Falls
914th AW
2-DZs





914th AW Low Altitude Training & Navigation (LATN) Area





Operational Benefits: Airspace Advantages



The 914th Airlift Wing's location has numerous airspace-related advantages for flight operations and training.

- **No air traffic encroachment or delays in ATC clearances**
- **Unlimited flexibility in developing IFR/SKE training routes**
 - **Only Reserve C-130 unit that can perform tactical IFR formation training with actual IFR drops at the installation**
- **Excellent IFR and VFR training due to weather patterns**
- **Extensive low level training areas have current environmental impact statements and valid permits**
- **Excellent location for Night Vision Goggle (NVG) missions due to the ideal training regions of Western New York and Canada**
- **Local training agreements with CFB Trenton, Canada**



Unit Expertise Long Recognized by AFRES



- **Provided initial cadre flight crew and maintenance training for:**
 - **Duke AFRES Base (FL) conversion to C-130A - '75**
 - **Pittsburgh (PA) conversion to C-130A - '81**
 - **Rickenbacker (OH) conversion to C-130A - '82**
 - **Honduran AF conversion to C-130A - '85**
 - **Peterson Field (CO) conversion to C-130H3 - '94**
- **Frequently augment HQ AFRES Inspector General teams**
- **Wing Stan/Eval widely recognized for their expertise**
- **Lead unit for AFRES airlift mission NVG training**



Military Base Capability

AIRFIELD	JET FUEL STORAGE (1000 GAL)	AVAILABLE ON BASE QUARTERS	AEROMED ON BASE	ASSAULT TRAINING ON BASE	DROP ZONES ON AIRFIELD	NON-STOP TO EUROPE*
NIAGARA	672	376**	YES	YES	TWO	YES
Pittsburgh	105	244	yes	no	none	yes
Minneapolis	462	186	yes	no	none	no
Chicago	420	none	yes	no	none	no
Milwaukee	210	none	no	no	none	no
Youngstown	630	113	no	yes	none	yes

* Note 1: Non-stop to Europe assumes a great circle direct route to RAF Mildenhall, no wind, and 300 KTAS. Niagara Falls is 200 miles closer than the next closest base.

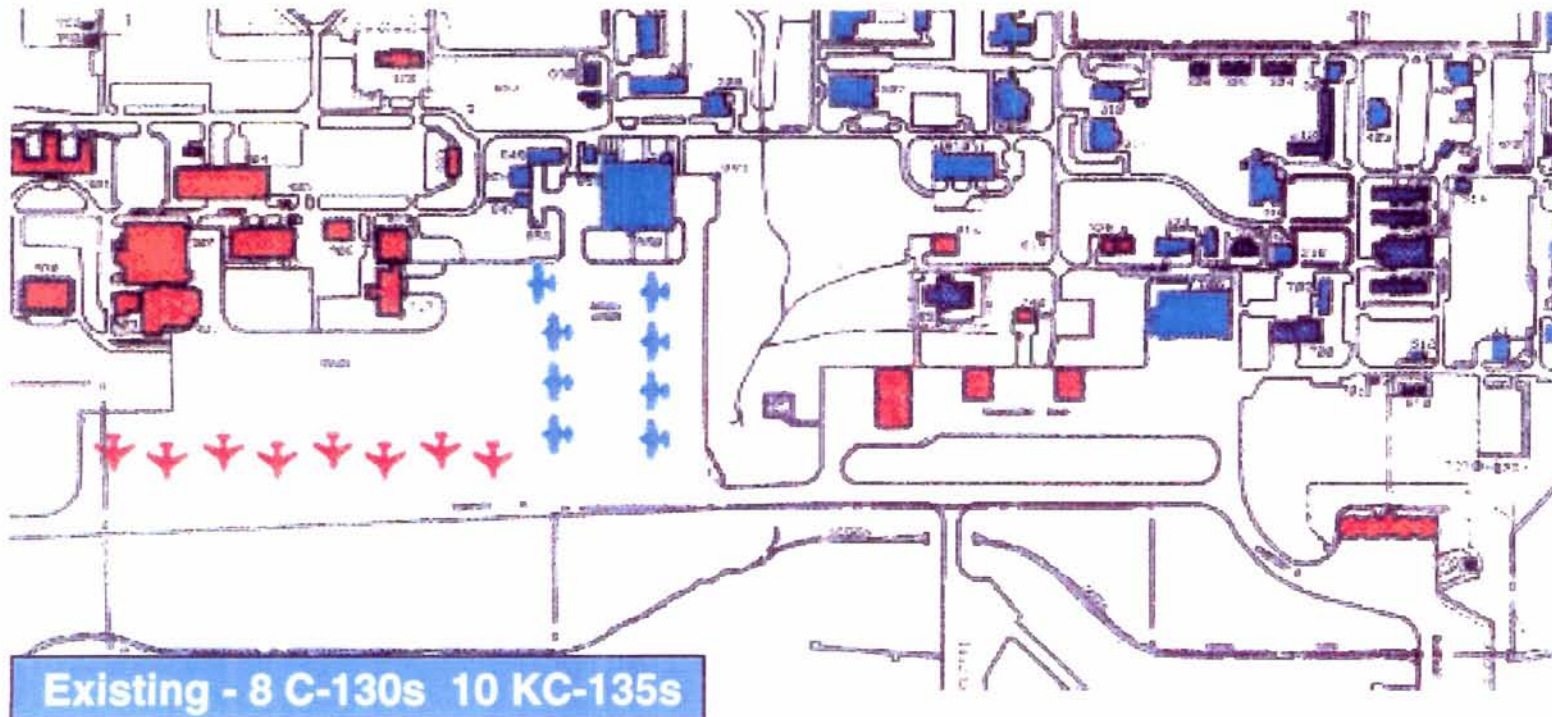
** Note 2: Indicates capacity with one person per room. With two per room, capacity increases to 528 people. In a contingency, up to 800 can be accommodated using surge capability of base gym.



Military Base Capability



- **Strategically located**
 - Capable of expanding to meet DOD requirements for any contingency or deployment

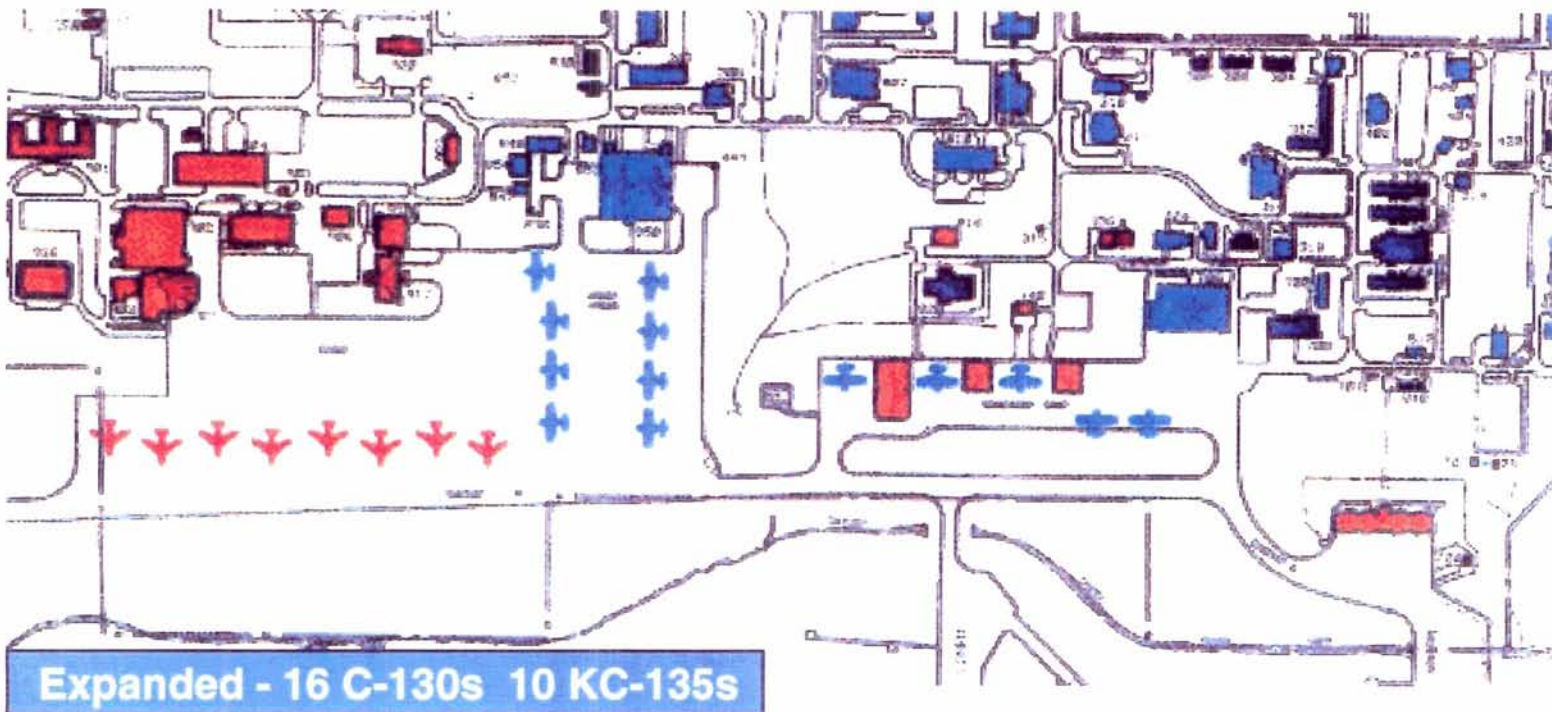




Military Base Capability



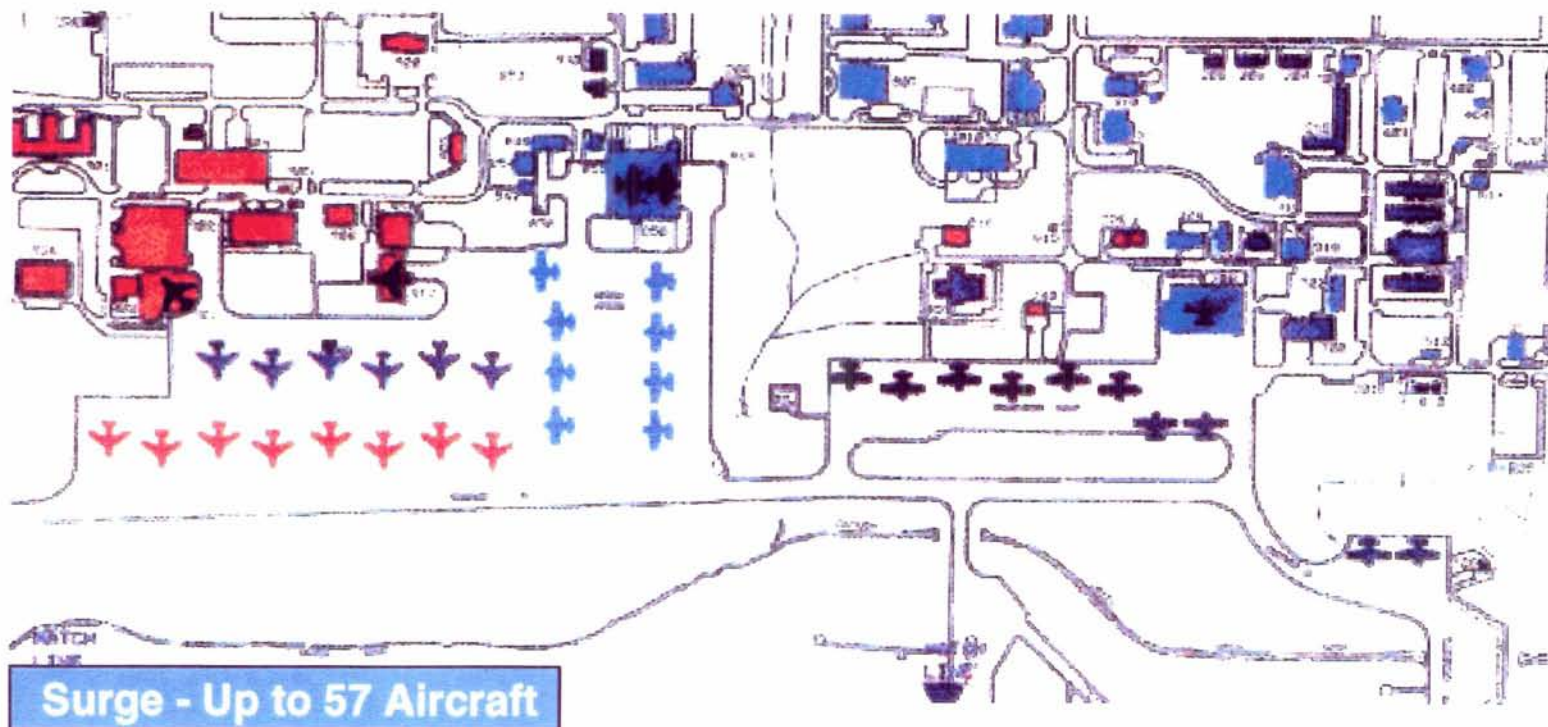
- **Strategically located**
 - Capable of expanding to meet DOD requirements for any contingency or deployment





Military Base Capability

- **Strategically located**
 - Capable of expanding to meet DOD requirements for any contingency or deployment







BRAC DATA

4 YR. AVERAGE



<u>BASES</u>	<u>NPV(\$K)</u>	<u>ROI</u>	<u>SAVINGS</u>
1) Mitchell	(223,374)	1 yr.	88.8 (\$M)
2) Youngstown	(211,301)	1 yr.	86.4 (\$M)
3) O'Hare	(204,271)	2 yr.	77.1 (\$M)
4) Pittsburgh	(196,889)	1 yr.	80.7 (\$M)
5) Niagara	(196,419)	1 yr.	80.4 (\$M)
6) Minneapolis	(180,049)	1 yr.	68.5 (\$M)



Corrected Cost Comparison For AFRES Bases Under Study



	<u>Milwau</u>	<u>Pitts</u>	<u>Minn</u>	<u>Niagara</u>	<u>Chicago</u>	<u>Youngs</u>
FY 94 O&M BUDGET	23.5	22.9	24.2	27.0	28.4	24.5
Less Mission Costs	9.9	10.2	11.3	9.7	11.7	11.8
Gross Support Costs	13.6	12.7	12.9	17.3	16.7	12.7
Less:						
Payroll	8.8	7.1	6.5	6.6	10.1	7.7
Construction	1.3	2.6	2.1	3.8	2.4	2.7
A-76 Contract				2.6		
Net Support Costs:	3.5	3.0	4.3	4.6	4.2	2.3

All six bases are very similar in terms of their operating expenses



Additional Cost Considerations



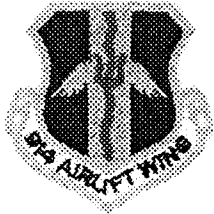
If the Reserve Station closes, the NY Air National Guard would incur additional operating costs.

- **The DOD estimates this cost at \$600,000**
- **The NYANG places this figure at \$2 million**

Because of this \$2 million cost transfer, the savings to the government is overstated by \$1.4 million

- **The ROI would increase from one year to two years.**



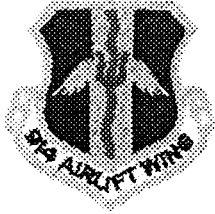


Economic Impact

Base Names	Percent Job Loss
Niagara Falls IAP ARS	1.1% *
Youngstown-Warren MPT ARS	0.5%
Gen Mitchell IAP ARS	0.1%
Greater Pittsburgh IAP ARS	0.1%
Minneapolis-St. Paul IAP ARS	0.1%
Chicago O'Hare IAP ARS	0.0%

*** This represents a real dollar impact of \$64.9 Million**

Source: AF BRAC Documents



Community Ties



Niagara Falls ARS and its Reservists are closely tied to the greater Niagara family

- Fire Department is a key component in the Niagara County Mutual Aid Plan
 - Backup support
 - Training - close to 4,200 individuals in four years
 - HAZMAT response
 - Mitigation and prevention
- Home of the Niagara Quality Council
- Involved in the DARE program
- Involved in labor relations training





Personnel Training and Recruitment

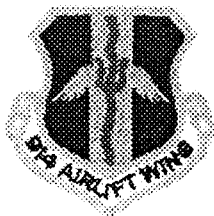


The 914th Airlift Wing draws its personnel from a recruiting area encompassing Niagara Falls, Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse - all of Western New York

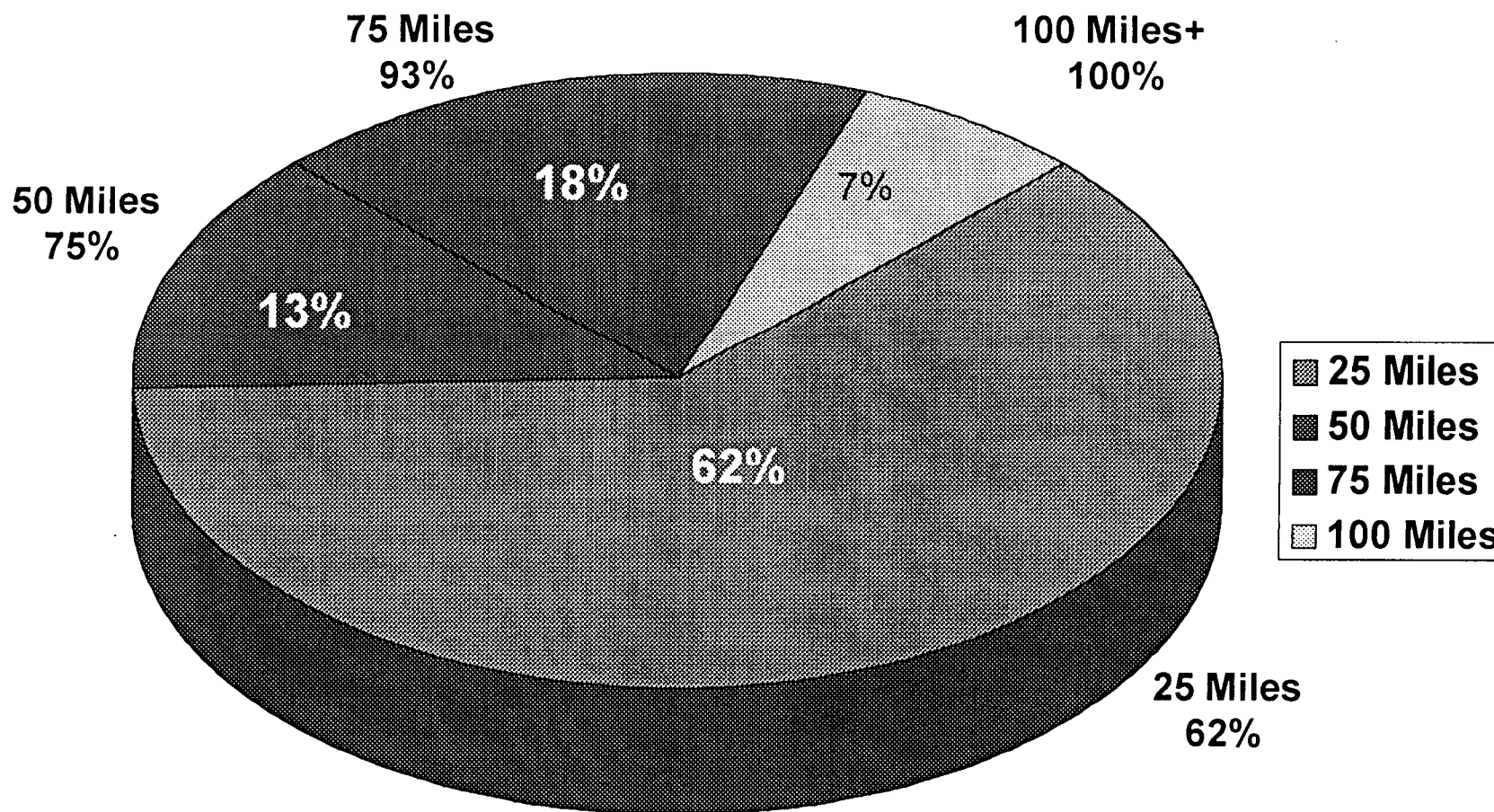
- **Ample supply of high quality personnel**

For the BRAC Commission, Military Value is the #1 measure our defense facilities are judged by

- **For the 914th, its people are the #1 contribution to military value**
- **They are combat-tested and highly skilled**



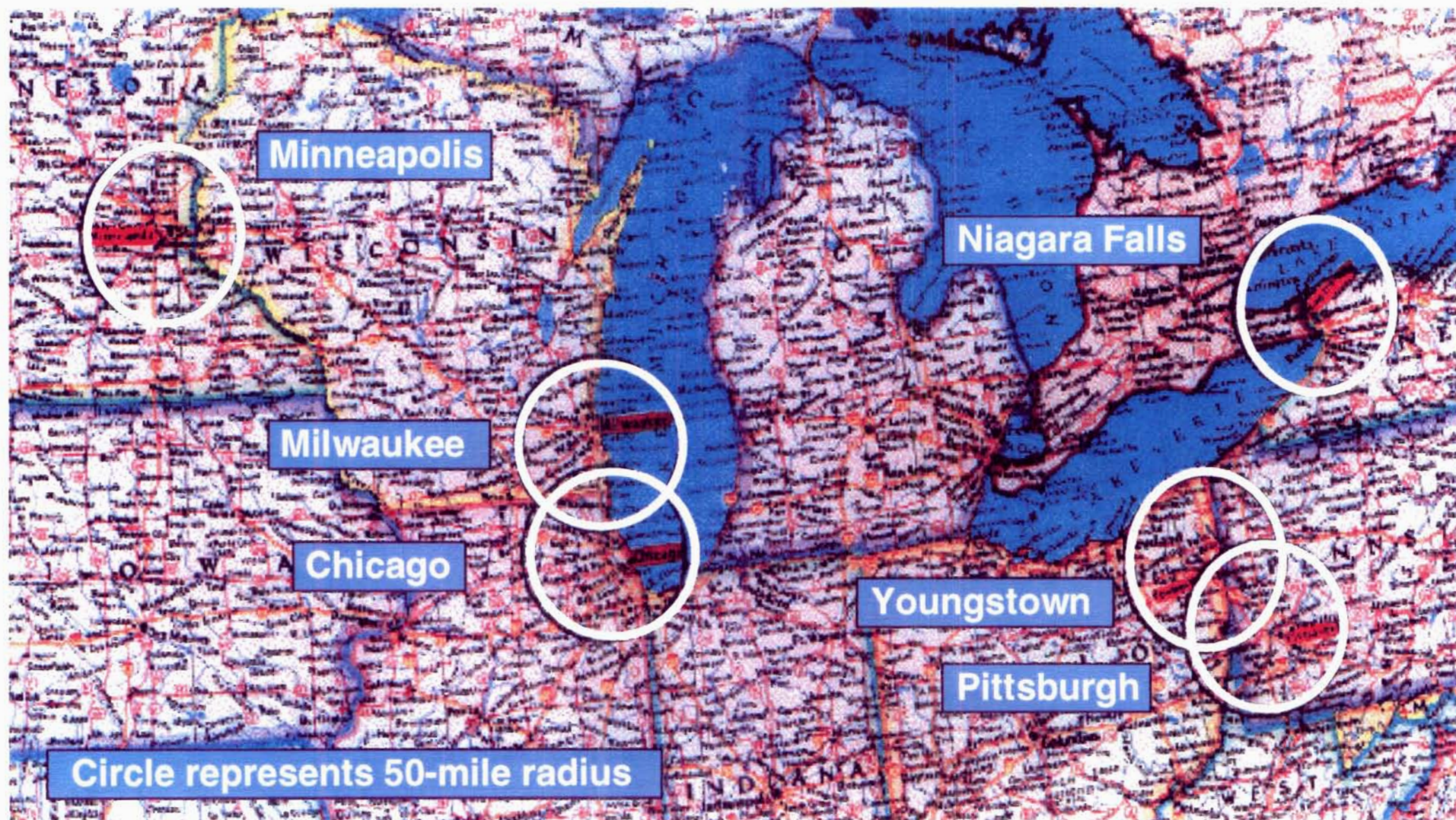
914th Member Commute Distance

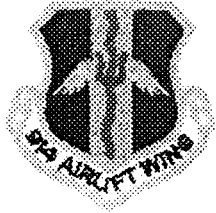


**75% of Members live within
a 50 mile radius of Niagara ARS**



Recruitment Regions



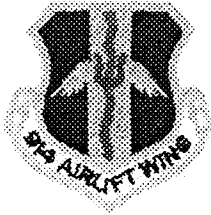


Cost to Reservists to Commute to Nearest Alternate Reserve Base



- **Monetary Effects**
 - Average travel costs would be \$740 per year - as much as one-third of a Reservist's gross pay
 - Wear and tear on car - 4,200 miles per year
- **Other factors**
 - Eight-hour round trip commute is four times greater than the Air Force's established travel policy
 - Nearest Reserve base would be unable to absorb all 914th reservists. Assignment to other bases would impose even greater hardships to individual reservists.

Most of our highly trained and experienced Reservists could no longer afford to participate in the reserve program.



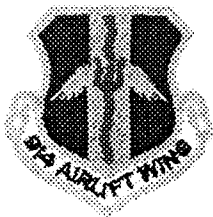
AFRES Needs to Retain Personnel and Proficiency



Since most Reservists cannot relocate, the closure of the Niagara Falls IAP/ARS would permanently deny the Air Force Reserve its most combat-proven personnel team.

- The 914th Airlift Wing's personnel are the Niagara ARS' #1 Military Value Component**



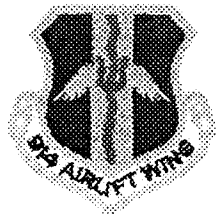


Conclusions



- NIAGARA ARS IS THE PREMIER AIR FORCE RESERVE C-130 BASE.

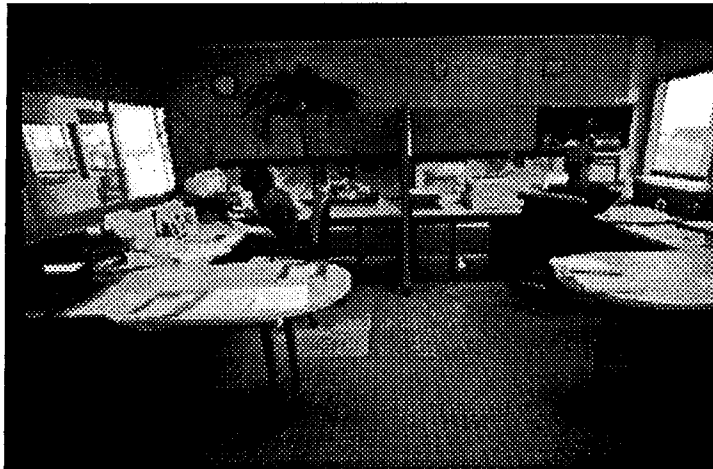


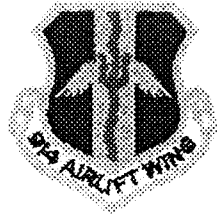


Conclusions



- Niagara ARS is the premier Air Force Reserve C-130 base.
- NIAGARA (ARS) AND THE 914TH AIRLIFT WING ARE OF ESSENTIAL MILITARY VALUE BECAUSE OF OUR PERSONNEL, TRAINING, COMBAT EXPERIENCE, AND LOCATION.



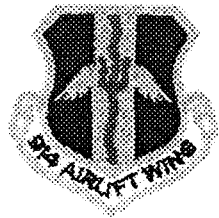


Conclusions



- Niagara ARS is the premier Air Force Reserve C-130 base.
- Niagara (ARS) and the 914th airlift wing are of essential military value because of our personnel, training, combat experience, and location.
- **CLOSURE OF THE NIAGARA FALLS IAP/ARS WOULD HAVE A DEVASTATING IMPACT ON ITS PERSONNEL, RESULTING IN A LOSS OF A COMBAT-TESTED AND PROVEN UNIT FOR THE AIR FORCE RESERVE.**





Conclusions



- **Niagara ARS is the premier Air Force Reserve C-130 base.**
- **Niagara (ARS) and the 914th airlift wing are of essential military value because of our personnel, training, combat experience, and location.**
- **Closure of the Niagara Falls IAP/ARS would have a devastating impact on its personnel, resulting in a loss of a combat-tested and proven unit for the Air Force Reserve.**
- **BOS AND COBRA COSTS AMONG THE C-130 AIR RESERVE UNITS ARE EXTREMELY CLOSE. WHEN COUPLED WITH THE MILITARY VALUE OF THE BASE AND ITS UNIT, THIS JUSTIFIES ITS RETENTION BY THE 1995 BRAC COMMISSION.**





Niagara Falls ARS BRAC Briefing Guide

Slide 2 - Introduction

Thank you Congressman Lafalce. Good afternoon, members of the BRAC Commission.

OBO of the men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing, we welcome the opportunity to make our presentation before you today.


I'm Richard DeWitt and I'm a retired reservist from the 914th.

I am proud to speak about these people and this unit.



Slide 3 - Outline

-Our briefing this afternoon will provide key information we believe the BRAC commission should have in order to meet its objective and retain the level of military capability necessary for our country's defense. We will focus on Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and its Military Value, Cost and Budget Issues, Economic and Community Impact and Personnel Training and Retention.



Slide 4 - Introduction

The 914 Airlift Wing is located on 987 acres, 6 miles east of Niagara Falls, New York. 8 C-130 H3 model aircraft, the newest in the Air Force inventory, are assigned to the Wing. 340 full time employees maintain the core structure which is responsible for training more than 1200 Reservists. In addition, 57 full-time contract employees provide support services to the base. Implemented under the guidelines of A-76, these contract employees are cost effective and unique among the C-130 bases under consideration.

Slide 5 - C-130 Bases Under Consideration

The six bases currently under consideration are depicted on this map. As you can see, 2 pair of the 6 bases are located in close proximity to each other. Minneapolis and Niagara Falls are widely separated from the other C-130 Reserve Airlift Wings.

Slide 6 - Map of New York

The 914th Airlift Wing represents the only Air Force Reserve presence in New York State. Our ties to the local community, involvement in the current operations tempo of DOD missions and the comprehensive training we provide underscore the Military Value we represent. Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is the anchor of the Air Force Reserve presence in Western New York. Our roots extend deep into the surrounding communities; from Niagara Falls and Buffalo to Syracuse, from Rochester to the Pennsylvania border.




Slide 7- Niagara Falls IAP/ARS

The 107th Air Refueling Group of the New York Air National Guard is a tenant and our partner on the base. The Guard is assigned 10 R model KC-135's along with the equipment and personnel to support them.



Slide 8 - IAP Map

While organizationally separate, the 914th and 107th units share many resources to the mutual benefit of both organizations. Among these resources are the fire department, communications center, billeting, dining hall and security.




Slide 9 - Mission Statements

Our wartime mission is to provide trained combat personnel ready to respond to worldwide hostilities. In peacetime, it is readiness of aircrews, aircraft and support personnel.




Slide 10 - 914 AW Contingency Support

In peace time and war, the 914th Airlift Wing has taken on a leadership role. We were there in Desert Storm, Somalia, Bosnia, and Turkey, gaining valuable combat experience. One of our crews was selected as the lead crew for one of the planned air drop missions in support of the initial army forces involved in Operation Restore Democracy in Haiti.



Slide 11 - Humanitarian and Operational Support

Our operations pace has remained at a high level. DOD exercises and worldwide humanitarian missions remain a key part of our ongoing training regimen.



Slide 12 - Proven record

The 914 Airlift Wing has a proven record of performance. During Desert Storm we flew more than 4800 hours and 2900 sorties with 100% mission effectiveness. This effort earned us the Outstanding Unit Award. The Wing's experience and the talents of our members have long been recognized by our Command. The 914 Airlift Wing has accumulated 32 years and more than 110,000 hours of accident free flying.

Slide 13 - Achievements

To underscore the significance of our achievements, all of this was accomplished while undergoing a major conversion. This complex transition from the E model C-130's to the H3 model began in 1992 and took 2 and one half years to complete. We went from 1950's technology to 21st century state of the art capability. As if this wasn't challenging enough, we suspended our conversion for four months to take on the further challenges of an Operational Readiness Inspection in 1994. We performed at an exceptional level in that inspection. In fact, no Air Force Reserve C-130 unit has received a higher rating on its ORI in the last nine years.

Slide 14 - Peacetime Training Role and Contributions

The 914 Airlift Wing provides valuable joint service support in New York. We work closely with the Army's 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, as well as with units from the Navy, Marines and the National Guard. The 914th's support for the 10th Mountain Division is accomplished effectively and efficiently because of our proximity and training capabilities.

Slide 15 - Summary of FY 95 Joint Training

This chart highlights the ongoing relationship we have with military units in New York. Missions with the 10th Mountain Division provide our crews with dirt landing zone and airdrop training. Army troops receive practical experience in load rigging, aircraft loading, drop zone and landing zone operations. The 109th Airlift Group from Schenectady makes routine use of our on base drop zone. In addition, a number of other local units benefit from their proximity to the 914 Airlift Wing.

Slide 16 - Operational Benefits

The number and variety of drop zones and landing zones available to the 914th Airlift Wing provide significant training benefits. We have access to seven drop zones on government property, four within 40 NM of the base and two on this installation. Our proximity to Fort Drum offers aircrews access to the only dirt assault zone in the northeast.

Slide 17 - 914 AW LATN Area

The 914 Airlift Wing developed and controls an approved Low Altitude Training Navigation Area (LATN). This entire area is environmentally assessed down to 500 feet Above Ground Level with several segments cleared down to 300 feet. Land topography varies from mountainous to flat, sparsely populated non-descript terrain. Since we are not limited to set routes within this area, crews develop, plan and execute dynamic, challenging airdrop scenarios, ensuring a well-trained, versatile force.

Another benefit of our unrestricted airspace is our ability to develop a variety of radar Station Keeping Equipment training routes. These procedures allow a formation of up to 36 aircraft to operate in instrument conditions to a drop zone or landing zone

Slide 18 - Airspace Advantages

With no air traffic control restrictions to limit our planning, we have virtually unlimited latitude in developing low level training routes. Local weather patterns offer an excellent instrument and visual training environment and our crews routinely fly instrument formations. Contrary to popular perception, the weather in the airspace around Lake Ontario and Niagara Falls is moderate for the Northeast. This ensures full training capability year round.

Night Vision Goggle training is also ideally suited for this locale. We make routine use of Trenton Canadian Forces Base, Canada. This provides our crews a unique opportunity to stay current with international flight procedures and has opened the door for joint training with our Canadian partners.

Slide 19 - Unit expertise

The expertise of the members of the 914 Airlift Wing has been called upon by HQ AFRES time and again. Our personnel have trained other Reserve units, as well as Foreign Nations, undergoing conversion to the C-130. We are routinely asked to augment the HQ AFRES Inspector General on their inspections, particularly in the areas of maintenance and intelligence. The Wing Standardization and Evaluation section has been a major contributor to flight manual updates, playing a significant role in writing the H3 operations manual. Our selection as Lead Unit for development of Night Vision Goggle training continues a pattern of leading-edge involvement.

Slide 20 - Base Capability


The 914 Airlift Wing has a unique mix of training and base resources to meet routine as well as contingency requirements. This chart highlights those key areas which demonstrate our capability. As you can plainly see, Niagara has the largest fuel storage capacity, the most extensive billeting, an aeromed unit on base, assault training capabilities on base, two drop zones on the air field (while the other bases have none) and the ability to make a non-stop flight to Europe--200 miles closer than the next closest base.



Slide 21 - Base slide eight aircraft


The Base currently supports 8 C-130 and 10 KC-135 aircraft.

Slide 22 - Base slide 16 aircraft



Existing ramp space will allow us to expand up to 16 C-130's. Our strategic location makes us an excellent resource in any contingency.

Slide 23 - Base slide 57 aircraft



Including ramp space provided by the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority on the south side of the field, the 914 Airlift Wing is capable of supporting up to 57 aircraft and crews, and service six airplanes every hour with 40,000 LBS of fuel.

SLIDE 24 - BRACC Data 4 Year Average

This slide summarizes key economic factors associated with the realignment or closure of the six C-130 bases under consideration.

The data is taken from a run of the latest COBRA model dated May 26, 1995. It reflects a four year average of base operating support costs.

This new information shows that the realignment or closing of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base would generate one of the smallest savings to the government.

SLIDE 25 - Corrected Cost Comparison

Five out of the six reserve C-130 bases support 8 aircraft. So the operating costs should be similar, but Niagara Falls, with the highest reported support budget, has the lowest mission budget. On the other hand the base with the lowest support budget has the highest mission budget. We raise the question whether some support-related costs have been reported erroneously as mission expenses.

SLIDE 26 - Additional Cost Considerations

The Air National Guard would be the host in the event of closure and realignment of the 914 AW. This action would increase the Air Guard support budget by approximately \$ 2.0 M. The additional cost would be in support of Fire and Crash Rescue services, Security Police, Vehicle Maintenance and POL services.

Slide 27 -- Impact on the Community

The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is an integral part of the Niagara Community. Its closure would have a devastating impact on the area.

Western New York has suffered from a continuous downslope in its industrial base. In Niagara County alone, more than 11,000 manufacturing jobs have been lost in the last 12 years.

According to the chart on this slide, the impact of the base closing would be twice as great on Niagara's economy as it would be on our nearest counterparts. In real world terms that translates to 64.9 Million dollars per year.

We are in the infancy of an economic recovery, with a shift to service-based employment. As the second-largest payroll provider in the county, removal of the Niagara Air Reserve Station and its employee base would cripple Niagara's recovery efforts.

Slide 28 -- Community Ties

The Niagara Air Reserve Station and its personnel are closely tied to the community in many different ways. From the fire service to the DARE program, there is daily interaction and a cordial and cooperative attitude.

The base fire department is a key component of the county-wide mutual aid plan. They provide support, first aid, training, HAZMAT response, mitigation and prevention services on an ongoing basis.


For example, while a neighboring fire district was out of service for maintenance and repair, the base fire department absorbed that district into its operation, providing full coverage to the citizens of that community.

The base is the home of the Niagara Quality Council. Its Quality Officers spend time conducting outreach and onsite workshops for groups and municipalities throughout Niagara and Erie counties.


Reservists and civilian employees provide leadership in the community. They are leaders in business and industry, and they are involved in activities that range from labor relations training to human services programs such as DARE. They are truly the embodiment of the citizen soldier.



SLIDE 29 -Personnel/Training



The primary recruiting area of the 914th Airlift Wing is the entire Western New York region. The reservists we draw from the region share the common characteristics of commitment, professionalism and availability. We meet or exceed manning levels with quality, dedicated and skilled personnel. This is proven mission capable performance.



SLIDE 30 - Pie Chart

75% of our members have less than a 50 mile commute to reserve duty.

93% are within 75 miles. A relocation to the next closest base would increase that commuting distance by a factor of 4 to 5, a distance of more than 200 miles, and would jeopardize the reservists' ability to participate in a reserve program.

SLIDE 31 - Map

As this map clearly illustrates, 2 pair of the bases under review enjoy overlapping commuting areas within a 50 mile radius. The closure of any one of those 4 bases would have significantly less impact on a reservist's commuting distance. Conversely, a reservist at a unit such as Niagara, would be severely affected.

Slide 32 - Commute

A commute from the Niagara Region to the next nearest reserve base is lengthy and costly. Just imagine:

- Cost of travel, estimated at \$740 per year
- With an eight to ten hour commute, increased time away from home and family, and
- Reduced opportunities to participate in Reserve activities

SLIDE 33 - AFRES Needs to Retain

The bottom line is that the 914th Airlift Wing has great people and the reserve program will lose its most valuable resource, the people of Western New York.

SLIDE 34 - Summary 1


In summary, we trust that we have demonstrated that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is in fact the premier Air Force Reserve C-130 base in the country. We have demonstrated that we are both “First in War” and “First in Peace.”

SLIDE 35 - Summary 2

The expertise of our personnel in war and peacetime humanitarian missions, combined with our key location in the Northeast makes the 914th Airlift Wing an essential and irreplaceable asset.

SLIDE 36 - Summary 3

The closure of the Niagara Falls IAP-ARS would disperse our tactical airlift assets of combat proven resources. Our key location in the Northeast makes us a strategically placed airlift resource for war and peacetime missions; however, as a unit that is not located near any other, the closure of the 914th would eliminate the continued involvement of most of our reservists in this critical reserve program. Most of the reservists could no longer financially afford or logistically accommodate their involvement.




SLIDE 37 - Summary 4

We have demonstrated to you today that Niagara Falls has one of the lowest operating costs, superior military value and experienced, highly skilled personnel. Given the 914th's exceptional record of performance and its value to the Air Force Reserve, its retention by the 1995 BRAC Commission is fully justified.



SLIDE 38 - Concluding Blue/Flag Slide

Commissioners, this concludes our briefing. We would like to invite all of you to visit the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.....





914th AIRLIFT WING



BASE SUPPORT SERVICES COST

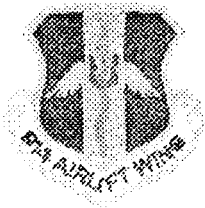


BRAC DATA

4 YR. AVERAGE

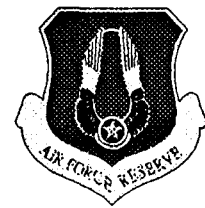


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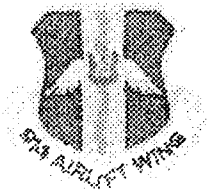


COBRA MODEL Vs. ANG

ESTIMATE OF DIRECT COSTS



- Air National Guard as Host
 - 53 workyears @ \$36,800 \$ 2.0 M
- COBRA Model
 - 16 workyears @ \$36,800 \$ 0.6 M
- DIFFERENCE
 - 37 workyears \$ 1.4 M



ADDITIONAL DIRECT COSTS



- Air National Guard as Host
- Workyears @ \$36,800 = \$ costs
 - Fire Department 35 wys \$1.28 M
 - Security Police 8 wys .29 M
 - Communications 3 wys .11 M
 - Vehicle Maint. 3 wys .11 M
 - Fuel Service/PLO 3 wys .11 M
 - Hazardous Material 1 wys .04 M
 - Total 53 wys \$1.94 M

A-76 CONTRACT COST (CREDIT)

The 914 AW is different from the other five reserve C-130 bases, in that a significant portion of support services is provided by commercial contract.


The BRAC questionnaire, utilized by the Air Force Reserve to collect financial data for each base, does not properly address A-76 Contract Services.

The instructions for this questionnaire provide for the exclusion of civilian payroll cost in the computation of base support service costs, but not A-76 contract cost.

The A-76 contract cost should be excluded, because service fees paid to a private contractor are direct labor costs associated with base support service. The contract employees hired under an A-76 contract are replacing federal employees. In the case of Niagara Falls IAP, 75 federal employees were replaced by 56 contract employees, for a five year savings in excess of \$1.6 M.

It's our position that the \$2.6M associated with the service portion of the A-76 contract should be excluded as a payroll related expense.

The exclusion of A-76 cost would result in an adjusted support cost of \$4.6 M for the Air Force Reserve at Niagara Falls.



Defense Cutbacks in New York State

*NYS Department of Economic Development
One Commerce Plaza
Albany, NY*

May 26, 1995

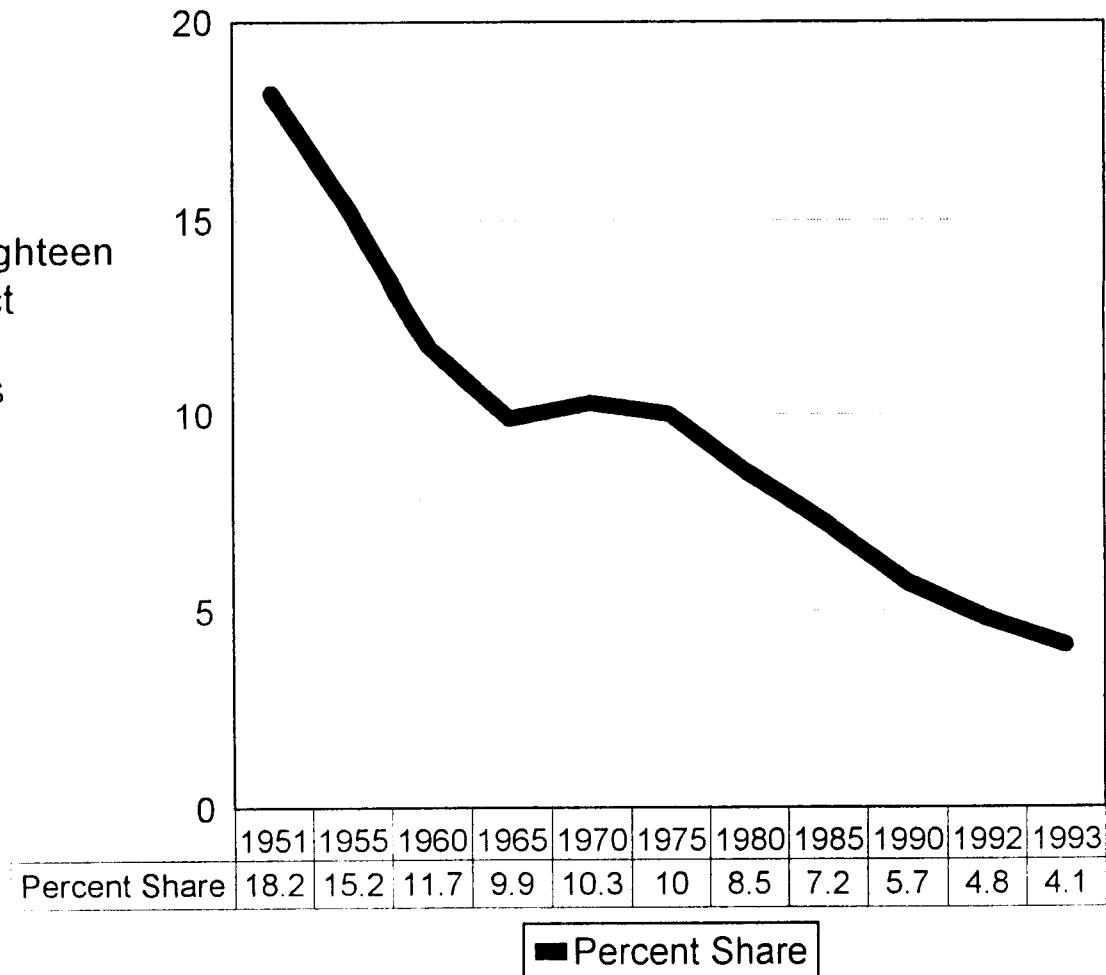
I. Contract Awards

[REDACTED]

DOD Contract Awards Won by NYS Firms

Percentage Share 1951-1993

In 1951, NYS firms received over eighteen percent of all Defense prime contract awards. Since that time, the State's percent share of Pentagon contracts has steadily declined.

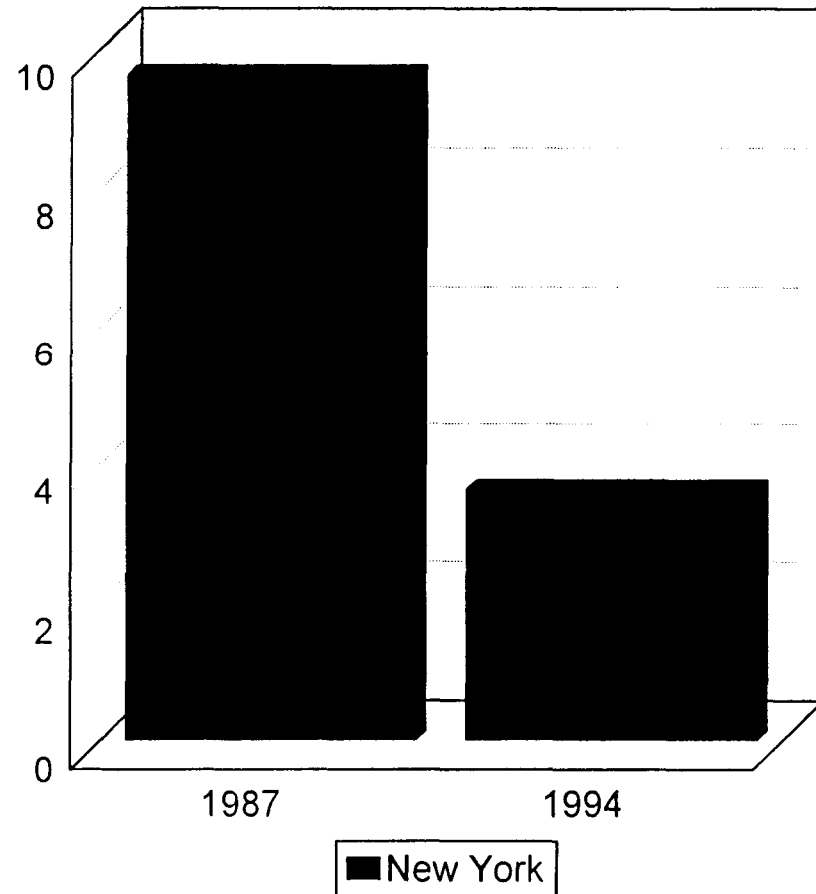


Prime Contract Awards

(Billions dollars)

From 1987 to 1994, prime contract awards to New York dropped by 62 percent, from \$9.6 billion to \$3.6 billion -- the largest drop of any state in the nation.

Using DOD's estimate that \$1 billion in contracts support approximately 25,000 jobs, the loss of prime contract awards in New York since 1987 has cost the State over 150,000 jobs.



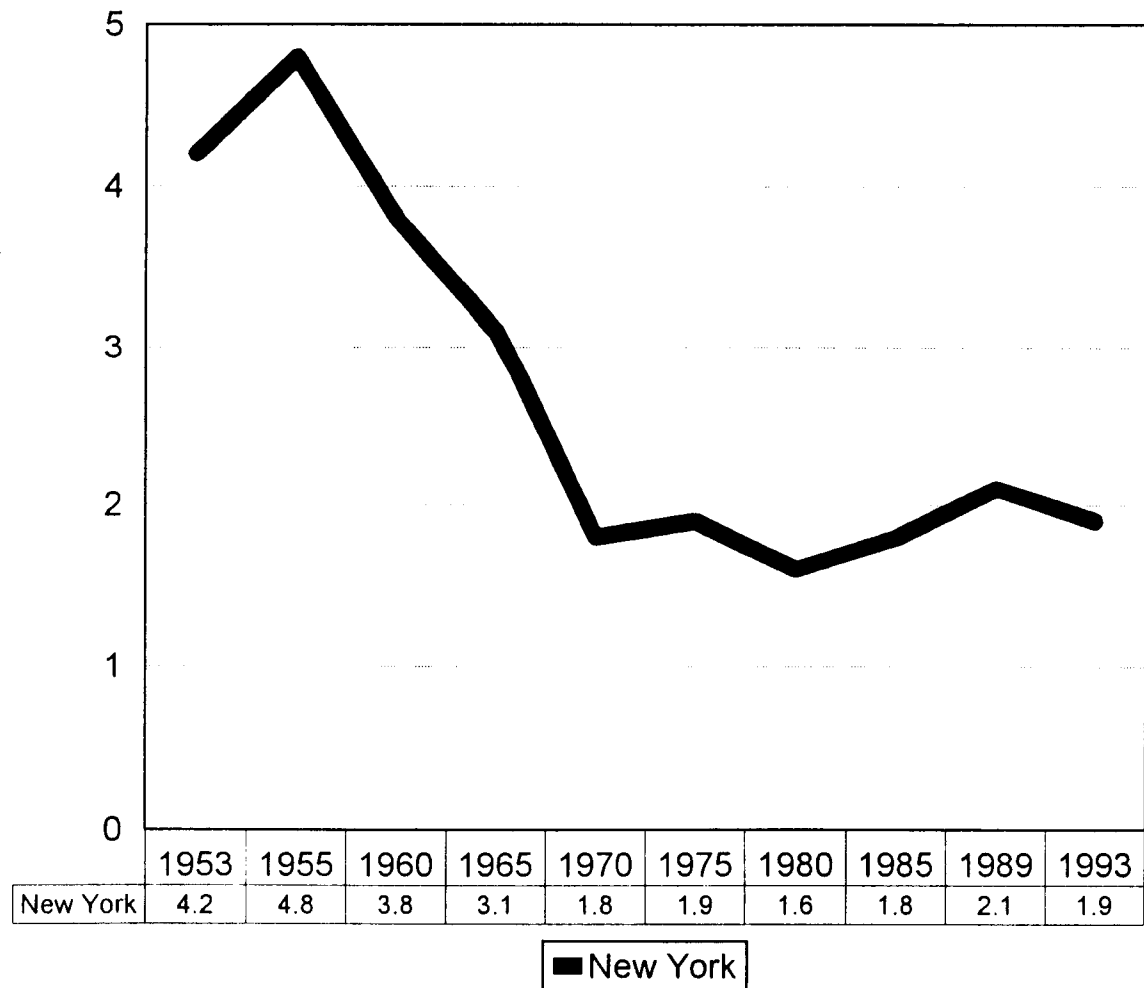
II. Bases and Personnel

[REDACTED]

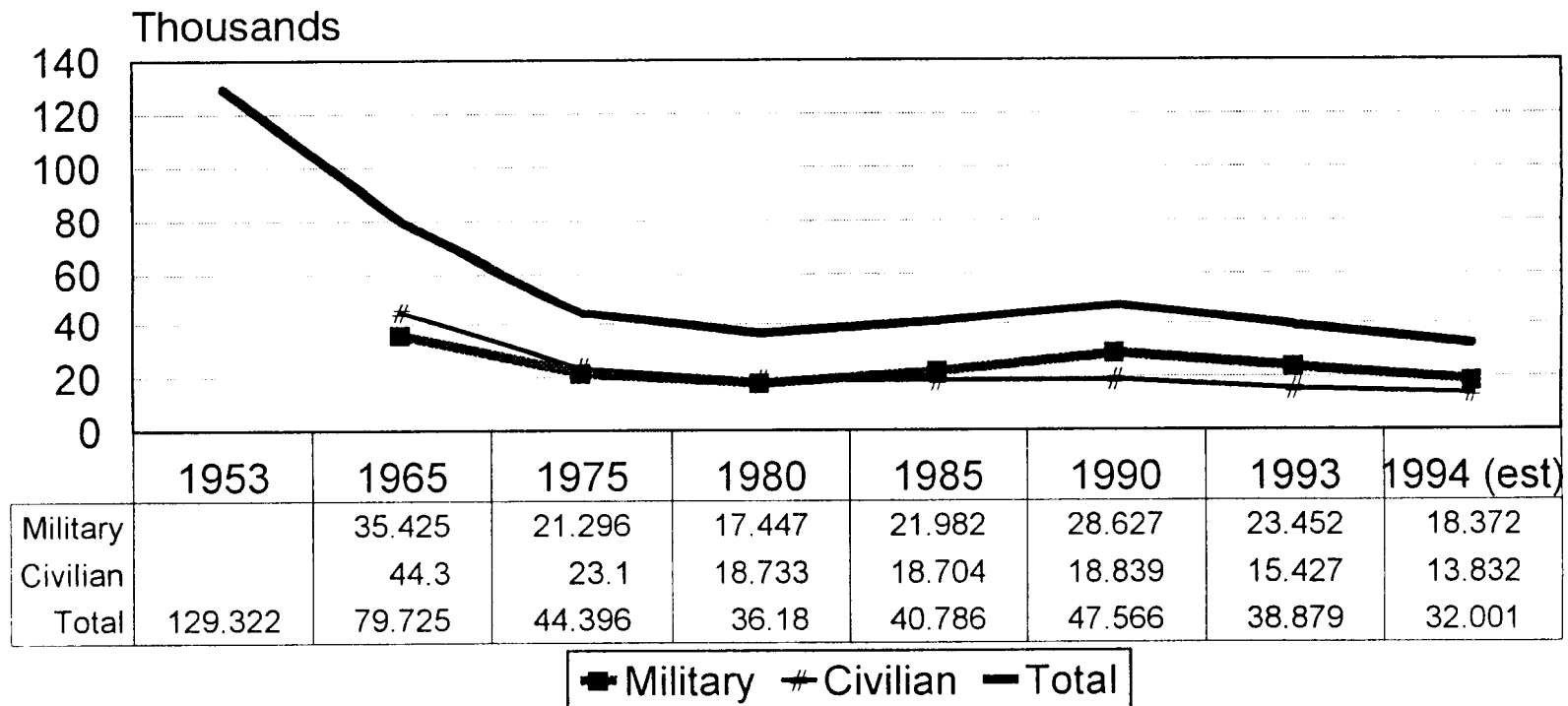
Percent of U.S. DOD Military and Civilian Personnel

New York: 1953-1993

In 1953, New York was home to 4.4 percent of the nation's military and civilian employees. By 1993, this figure had dropped to 1.9 percent.



DOD Personnel in New York

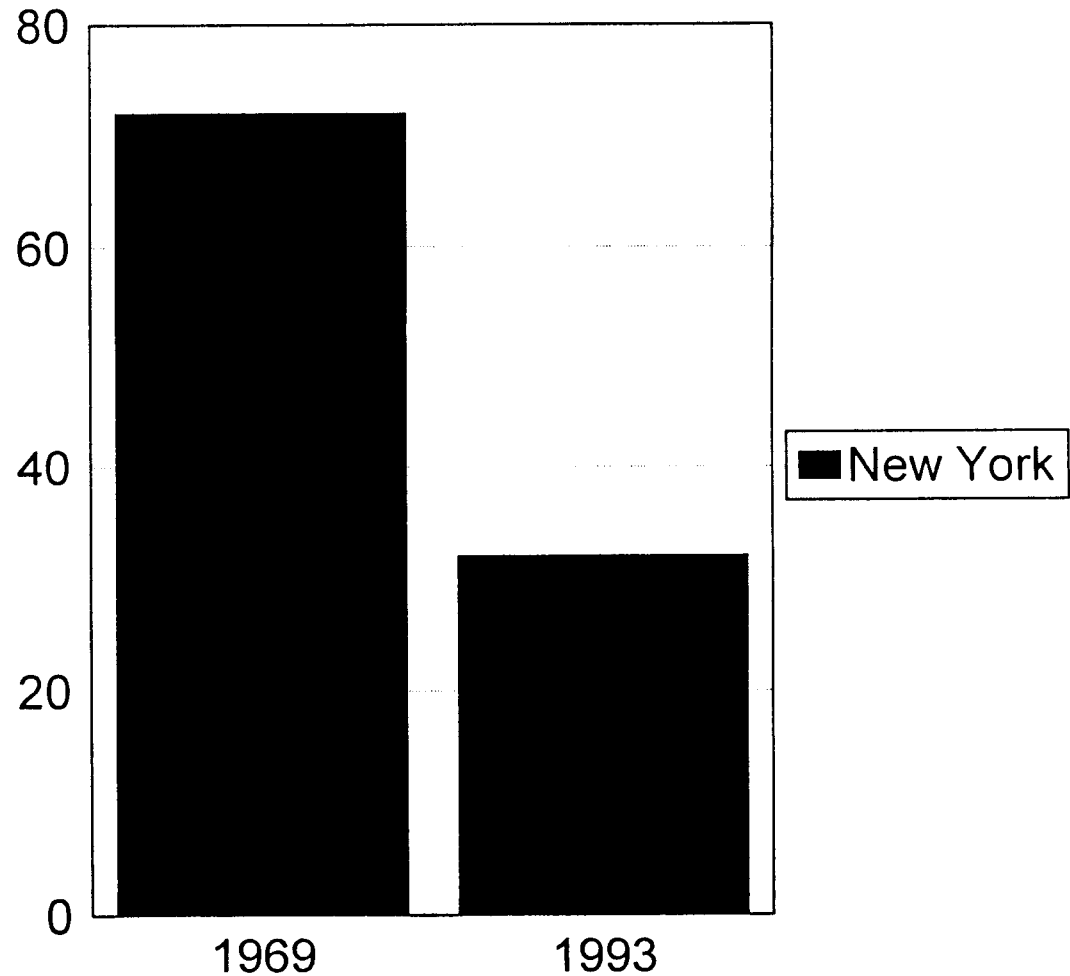


In FY 1953, DOD had 129,322 military and civilian employees in NYS. By 1994, the figure dropped to 32,000 (est.) -- a loss of nearly 100,000 jobs.

New York's Military Installations

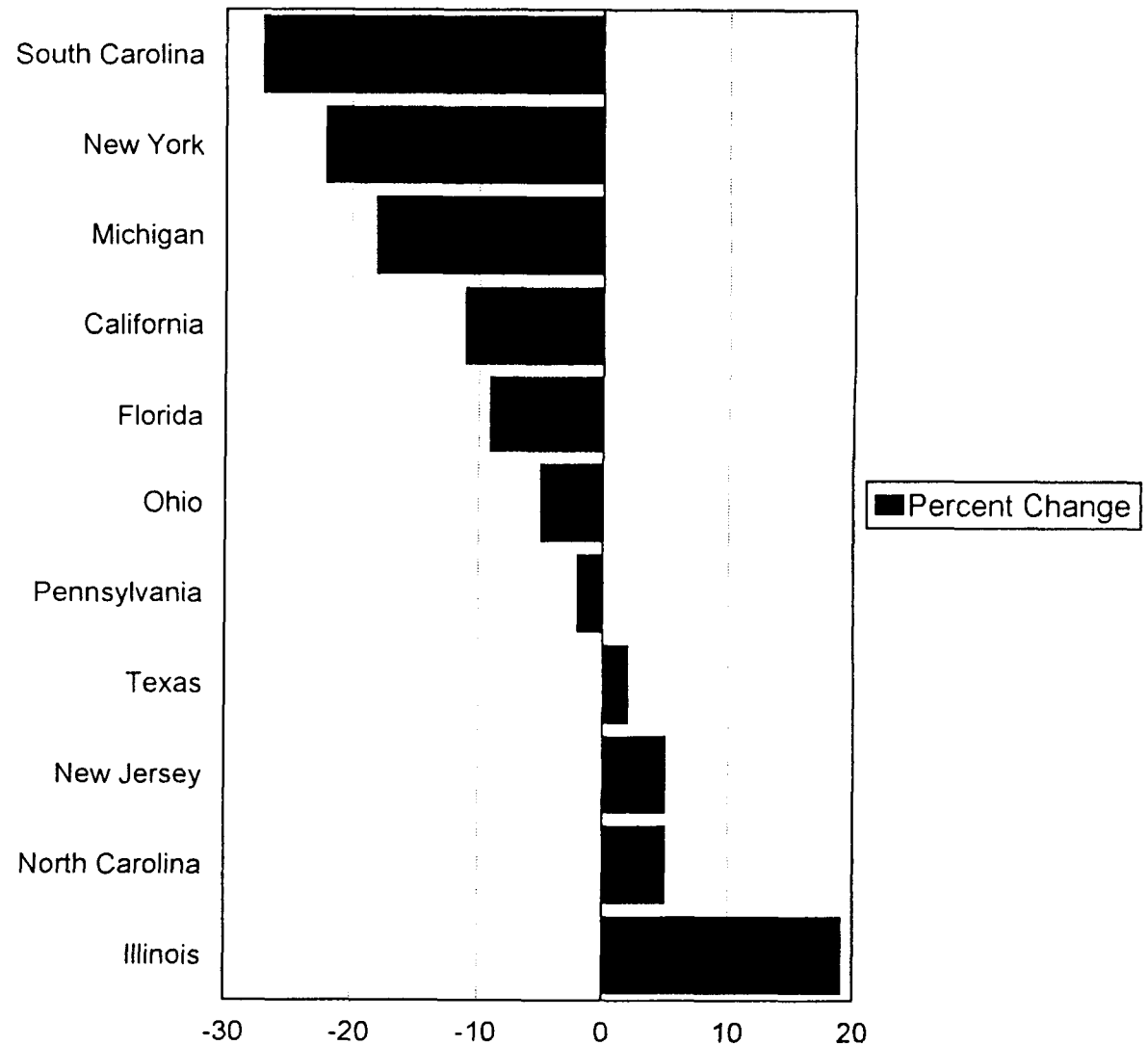
Number Closed from 1969 to 1993

Between 1969 and 1993, the Pentagon shut 40 military facilities in New York State resulting in a loss of 68,000 direct jobs.



DOD Employment Changes as a Result of the 1993 BRAC

The 1993 BRAC round cost the state 22 percent or 9,104 of its 41,574 Defense Department jobs. That's a greater percentage loss than any other state except South Carolina.



III. Defense Cutbacks in Western New York

[REDACTED]

III. Defense Cutbacks in Western New York

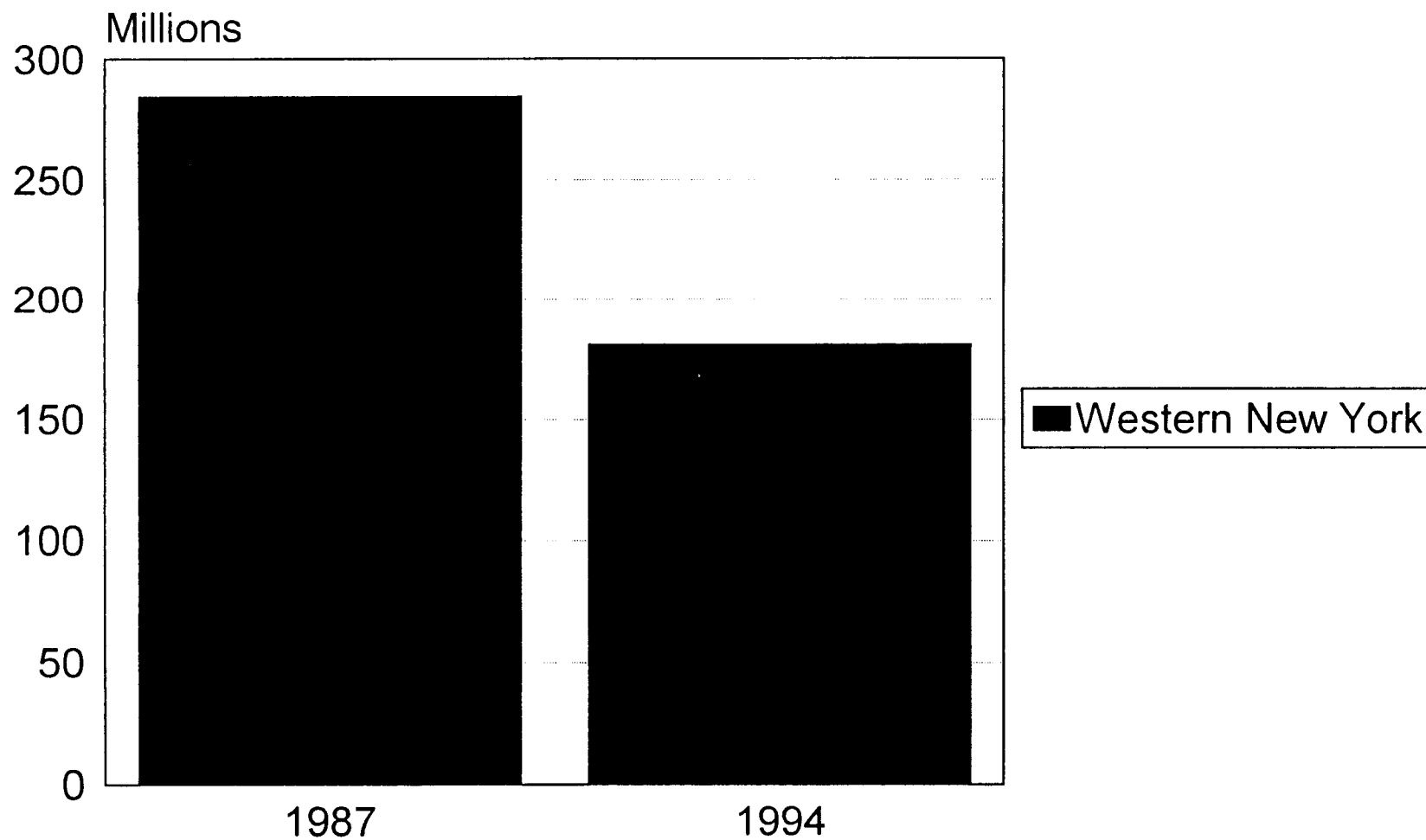
- **Contract Awards**

- Between 1987 and 1994, DOD prime contract awards to firms located in Western New York dropped by 36 percent from \$284 million dollars to \$181 million dollars.

- **Bases and Personnel**

- The workforce at the Seneca Army Depot has declined by more than 1,300 employees. The 300 jobs remaining at the base are in jeopardy because Seneca is on the 1995 BRAC list.
 - The Real-Time Digitally Controlled Analyzer Processor activity (REDCAP) at Buffalo, New York is also on this year's BRAC list. REDCAP helps to support over 75 jobs at CALSPAN.
 - The 1993 BRAC ordered the shutdown of DOD Family Housing and Family Housing Office at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.
-

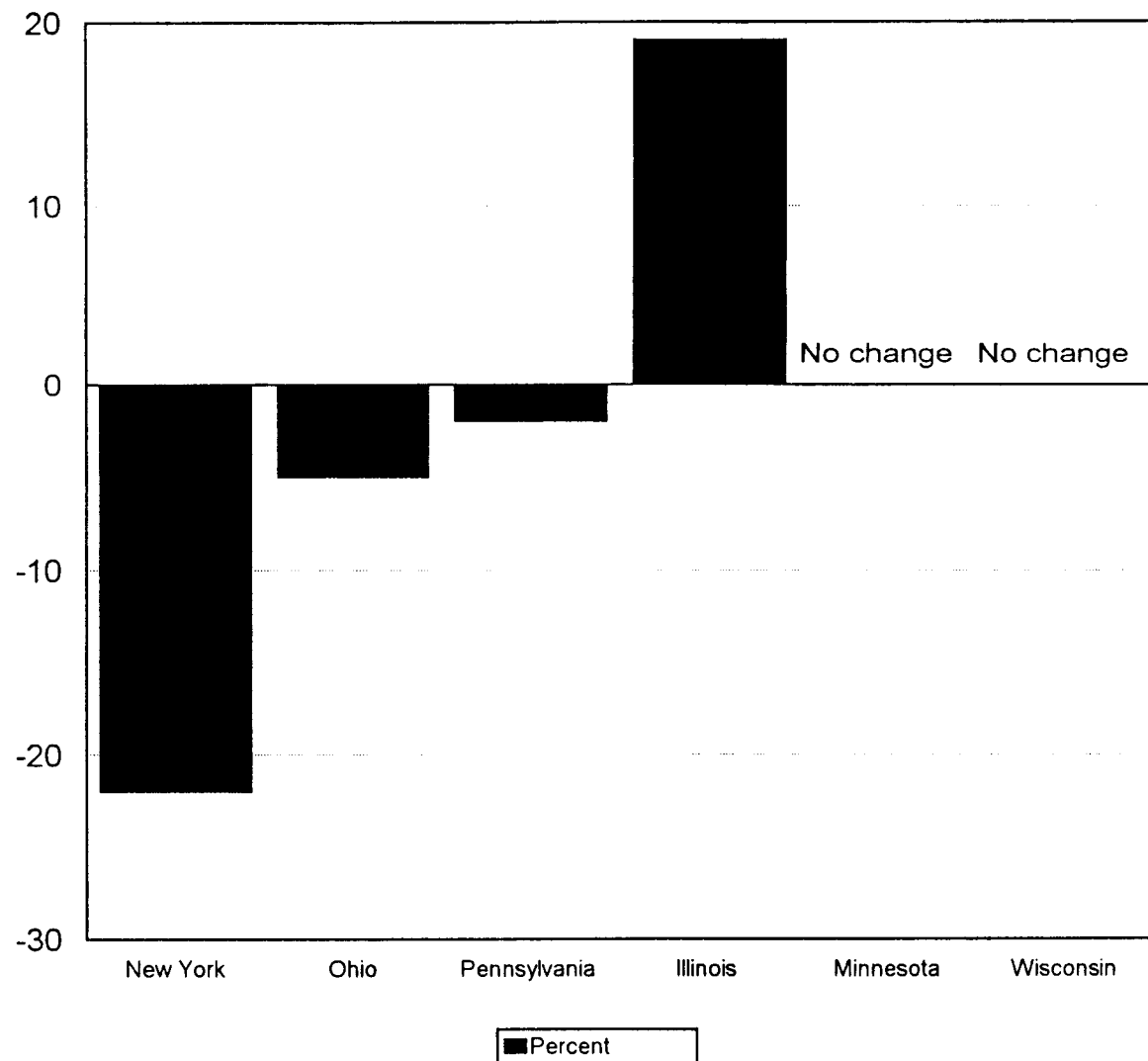
DOD Contract Awards Won by Western New York Firms



Defense Job Changes as a Result of BRAC 93 In Percent

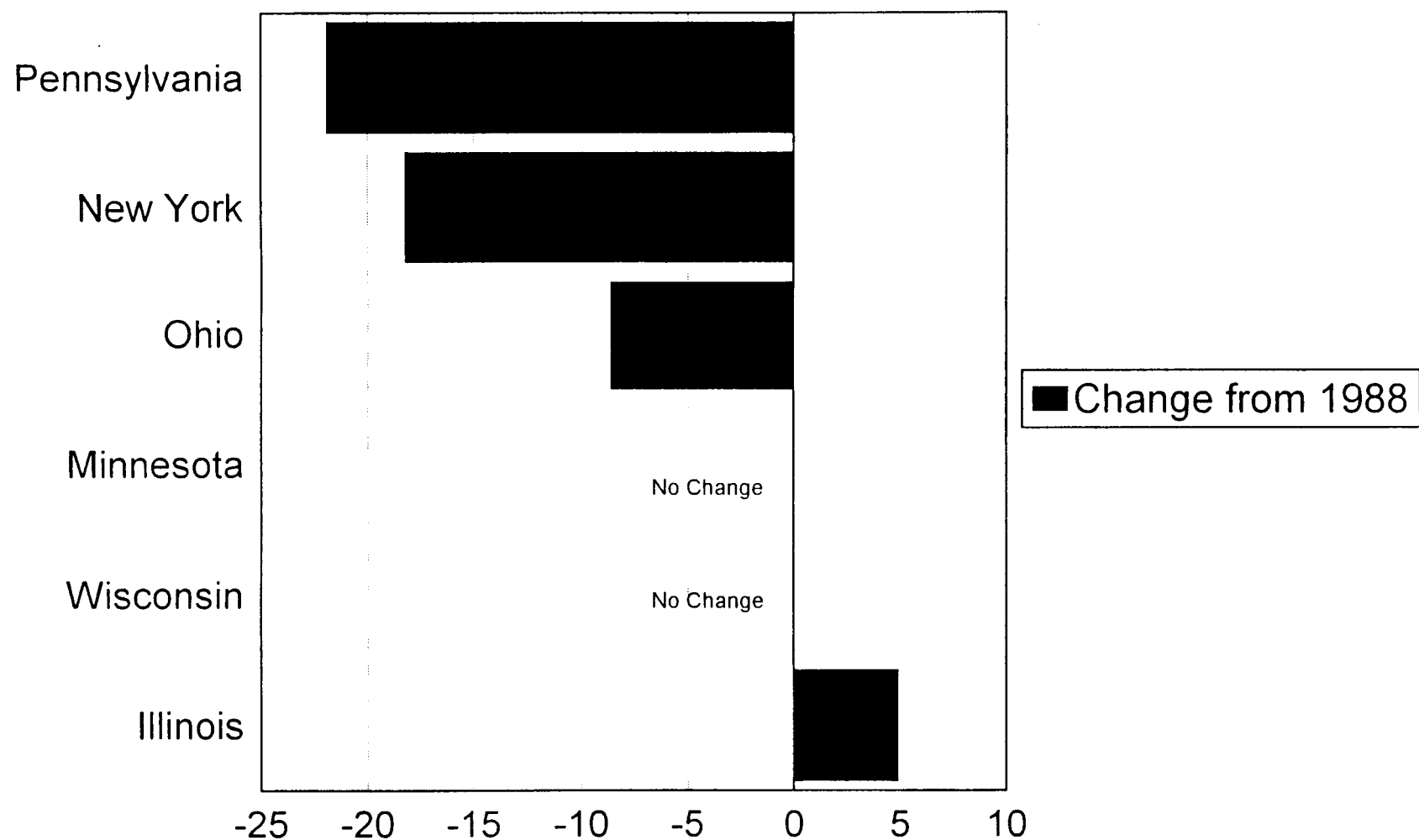
Niagara is competing with
Air Reserve Bases in Ohio,
Pennsylvania, Illinois,
Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

While New York lost over
20 percent of its defense
jobs in 1993, many states
were less severely
impacted.



Personnel Changes from the 1988, 1991 and 1993 Base Closures

Percent Change from 1988 Level







DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 98TH DIVISION (INSTITUTIONAL TRAINING)
2035 GOODMAN STREET NORTH
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14609-1098

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

AFRC-TNY-CG (140)

23 May 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR Base Realignment and Closure Committee

SUBJECT: Niagara Falls Air Force Base's Impact on USAR Readiness

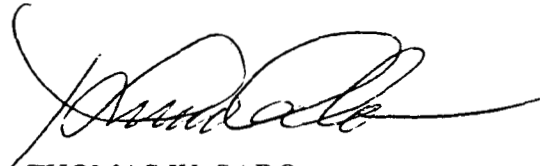
1. The purpose of this letter is to express our concern over the news that Niagara Falls Air force Base is being considered for closure.
2. Currently, a number of the 98th Division units and hundreds of soldiers utilize the facilities at the Air Base to conduct training. The base provides the only location in 200 miles that military training can be conducted in a military installation environment. This is particularly critical for all training done in an academy concept - NCO education, Drill Sergeant training, selected MOS training and officer education.
3. In addition, the Base provides the only inexpensive source in this entire region to conduct seminars or workshops. The availability of billeting coupled with excellent classrooms and support facilities - training areas , gymnasiums, theater (for large group presentations and ceremonies), dinning facility, paved surfaces for the conduct of drill and ceremonies, and large fields for physical fitness training. As a result, it is frequently used for this purpose as well.
4. The closure of Niagara Falls Air Force Base would have a serious impact on this commands ability to conduct training. Closure of Griffiss and Plattsburg Air Force Base and Seneca Army Depot in upstate New York have had detrimental impacts previously. Some of the training previously conducted at those sites has been shifted to Niagara Falls. Their closures have resulted in significant increases in our cost of training. Our limited budgets cannot sustain training of the nature that we perform at the Air Base. Nor are we aware of any facility left in the region, other than Fort Drum, where training of a similar nature could be conducted. The cost of transportation to Fort Drum coupled with the lost training time due to extreme travel hours makes Fort Drum not a viable alternative.

AFRC-TNY-CG (140)

23 May 1995

SUBJECT: Niagara Falls Air Force Base's Impact on USAR Readiness

5. Request you consider the impact closing the Niagara Falls Air Base will have on the many other military units in the area that depend on it to provide a cost effective means to sustain their unit readiness. In addition to the given impact, it will have on the local economy and the readiness of the Air Force Reserve units being displaced.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'THOMAS W. SABO', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

THOMAS W. SABO
Major General, USAR
Commanding



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MOBILE INSHORE UNDERSEA WARFARE UNIT 214
NAVAL AND MARINE CORPS RESERVE CENTER
3 PORTER AVENUE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14201-1096**

In Reply Refer to

May 23, 1995

Commanding Officer
914th Tactical Airlift Wing
Bldg. 807, 10460 Wagner Drive
Niagara Falls IAP-ARS
New York 14304-5000

Dear Colonel Gerald A. Black:

I am writing this letter to underscore the significance of your unit and the air base in Niagara Falls to the Naval Reserve Unit which I command in Buffalo, New York.

Naval Inshore Undersea Warfare Groups (NAVIUWGRUS) are priority 1A operational echelon IV commands, reporting to Commander Naval Surface Reserve Forces (COMNAVSURFRESFOR). NAVIUWGRUS consist of fourteen Mobile Inshore Undersea Warfare Units (MIUWU). All NAVIUW forces are commissioned, hardware-equipped, forward deployable units which are sea/air/land transportable. They operate world-wide in remote locations in the littoral environment, providing surface and subsurface surveillance and remote command, control and communications capability for designated fleet and joint commanders. NAVIUW units are extensively involved in fleet/joint exercises and surveillance operations, and were utilized in support of Desert Storm, and more recently in Haiti.

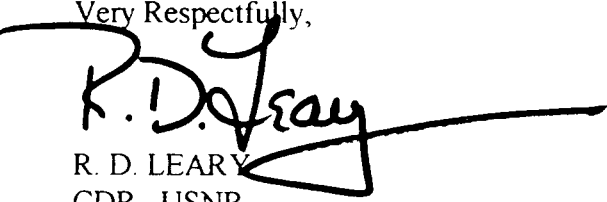
We have no active duty counterpart, and it is important that we be able to deploy within 48 hours. Consideration is being given to reducing the number of MIUWUS on the east coast to ten, and a significant factor in determining the viability of existing units will be proximity to a military air base from which the MIUWU can deploy. This factor played an important role in the location of MIUWU 214 in Buffalo when it was commissioned here in 1990, and plans are underway to break ground this Fall for a new vehicle and maintenance facility to support our operations.

As you know, we recently demonstrated our ability to deploy on short notice, when the 914th Tactical Airlift Group flew our personnel and equipment aboard a C-130 to NAS Jacksonville, Florida in January 1995 for an important training evolution. I could not have imagined a more cooperative effort between the services or a smoother evolution than what took place then, and I am counting on your further support for similar joint ventures, particularly during the winter months when the inclement weather makes it difficult to train our people here. You have also given us the opportunity to utilize some of the more sophisticated equipment of our other units by giving us access to them in other parts of the country.

Needless to say, the financial savings to the government by flying military air as compared to transporting in excess of 60 personnel and equipment by commercial air is substantial. In that regard, I note that plans have been made for the Air Force to deploy my unit outonus from the Niagara Falls Air Base for a forthcoming Naval exercise this summer.

Thus, I cannot overestimate the significance of your unit and the base facilities in Niagara Falls to the preservation of my own unit in the Western New York area, and it is my sincere hope that the Air Base in Niagara Falls be removed from the BRAC list.

Very Respectfully,



R. D. LEARY
CDR USNR

MAY-19-95 FRI 10:29

BEE GROUP NEWSPAPERS

FAX NO. 7166338601

P.01

05-19-1995 10:14AM

FROM D M N A PRO (NY)

TO

917166338601

P.02



STATE OF NEW YORK

DIVISION OF MILITARY AND NAVAL AFFAIRS

330 OLD NICKAYUNA ROAD
LATHAM, NEW YORK 12110-2224GEORGE E. PATAKI
GOVERNOR
COMMANDER IN CHIEFMICHAEL E. HALL
MAJOR GENERAL
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Governor George Pataki

FROM: Brigadier General John Fenimore, Acting Adjutant General

SUBJECT: Niagara Falls Air Base

One week ago we received news the Niagara Falls Air Base was added to the BRAC list of possible base closures. Niagara Falls is one of six Air Force Reserve C-130 Bases being considered for closing and comes as a shock to those both in the military and business communities.

Currently, the Niagara Falls Air Base is home to two units; the 914th Airlift Wing, an Air Reserve unit (scheduled to close) and the 107th Air Refueling Group, an Air National Guard unit (under your command). The Niagara Frontier's strategic position in the Western Hemisphere cannot be denied, even at a time when the threat of hostile action from old Cold War enemies is at its lowest point in decades. The base's role in supporting the American military must be maintained as part of an overall plan for the 21st Century.

New York State has already sustained more than its fair share of defense spending cutbacks, further impacting the poor State and local economy. In 1951, New York State firms received more than 18 percent of all defense prime contract awards. This figure has tumbled to about 4 percent in 1993.

New York cannot afford the adverse economic impact the Base closure would bring. Our loss of prime contract awards in New York since 1987 has cost New York more than 125,000 jobs. In 1993 when two New York State installations were closed by the Federal Government, it cost the State 22 percent of its Defense Department jobs, the second highest percentage in the Nation. This trend has now led BRAC to the gates of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base, and needs to be stopped.

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671 # of pages 2

To	NEIL NOLF	From	GEO MERSEY
Co		Co	
Dept		Phone #	632-4710
Fax #	236-2333	Fax #	623-8601

MAY-19-95 FRI 10:30
05-19-1995 10:14AM

BEE GROUP NEWSPAPERS
FROM DMNA PRO CHY?

FAX NO. 7166338601
TO 917166338601

P.02
P.03

On July 1st BRAC will make its recommendations to the President. The deadline is July 15th for the President to either approve the list and forward it to Congress or reject it. Congress can only act on the entire list.

The closure of the 914th Airlift Wing at Niagara Falls would be an economic tragedy to this community. Even though this is an Air Force Reserve unit, we at DMNA will be impacted through some increased State costs to our 107th Air Refueling Group, an Air National Guard unit. Please be assured we remain committed in continuing our efforts to combat the BRAC recommendation pertaining to Niagara Falls Air Base.



bc: Col. Gerald Black

CALSPAN
ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTER

25 May 1995

General James B. Davis
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 North Moore Street STE 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear General Davis:

1. The USAF research programs conducted by the Calspan Advanced Technology Center, Buffalo, New York would be seriously jeopardized if the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (ARS) were to close. The 914th Airlift Wing provides significant support in the areas of piloting staff, maintenance, aircraft inspections, liquid oxygen servicing, life support, publications and regulations, plus many other intangible instances of help. The assistance provided by the Air Force Reserves at Niagara Falls ARS permits the DOD research and aircraft operations to be conducted economically on the reduced DOD budget.
2. Calspan's Flight Research Department operates several sophisticated experimental aircraft that perform critical aeronautical research and development for the DOD, NASA and the commercial aircraft industry. Three are USAF aircraft operated by Calspan for the Wright Laboratory, Wright Patterson AFB, OH. All of the aircraft are used to develop advanced military and non-military aircraft systems and designs.
3. The work performed by Calspan's Flight Research Department has gained international recognition in the development of new aircraft over the last 45 years. Virtually every new aircraft design has been flight tested by this group before going into production. The most recent of these include the USAF's F-117, B-2, YF-22, YF-23, and C-17. The Boeing 777 and McDonnell Douglas MD-12 were also first flown on the research aircraft operated by Calspan. These programs involve countless approaches and landings to improve the design and train the test pilots. The Niagara Falls ARS runway is routinely used since it provides minimum traffic conflict between military and civilian aircraft and the air traffic controllers are familiar with military operations.
4. The Flight Research business base represents approximately ten million dollars per year to the company and directly employs 50 professional engineers, test pilots, maintenance staff, plus additional support personnel. The closure of the Niagara Falls ARS would be detrimental to the development of tomorrow's aircraft produced in the United States and would increase their procurement costs. Consequently, we at Calspan urge you to keep the Niagara Falls ARS and the 914th Airlift Wing operational.

Very truly yours,

Jack E. Wagner
Senior Vice President and General Manager
(716) 631-6797
FAX (716) 631-4152

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

May 11, 1995

The Honorable Alan Dixon, Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon:

As members of the New York State Delegation in the House of Representatives, we are deeply concerned about the last-minute addition of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to the list of sites that might be included for realignment or closure in the 1995 round.

While all the facts are not in, it appears that the Air Force had recommended closure of the Pittsburgh Air Force Reserve Station, where C-130 aircraft are based, but that both BRAC and the Air Force have now concluded that the actual facts used by the Air Force to make that recommendation were erroneous; and, as a result, five additional reserve stations where C-130 aircraft are based throughout the country are to be analyzed over a six week period.

The 914th Airlift Wing, which is based at Niagara Falls, is an outstanding asset to the Air Force. Last year, the Air Force Reserve gave the 914th a rating of "excellent" for its operational readiness. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is one of the largest and most important employers in all of Western New York, which remains an economically distressed region. The base employs over 4,400 people, with an annual payroll of more than \$56 million and an annual aggregate economic impact in excess of \$100 million.

We are confident that any objective analysis of the base and of that region will result in a conclusion that this base should remain open to serve the nation in the future as it has in the past. Our purpose in writing today is to urge you to ensure that the review now underway is indeed objective, and to express our hope that you and your commission colleagues will ultimately come

Hon. Alan Dixon
Page 2

to share our confidence in the Niagara Falls base and its value
to the United States.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.
Sincerely,

~~John J. Dolan~~

W. W. McHugh

Carl B. Hall

Harold Miller

W. J. Miller

Robert

John T. Wahl

W. A. W.

E. L. Engel

Gerold Nader

Wick M. Smith

~~W. J. Miller~~

Thurston Conway

Mike Forbes

Charles St.

Marion D. D.

Jack D.

Samuel

W. J. D.

Quitting

Red L. J.

F. J.

Louise Slaughter

Thom Manton

Susan Malinardi

Jim P

Ann Hargsten

Dr. Julian

Major R. O. Cunningham

Henry Boehlert

Joe E. Allen

JOHN J. LAFALCE
29TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

2310 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3229
(202) 228-3231

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3229

FEDERAL BUILDING
BUFFALO, NY 14302
(716) 846-4086

MAIN POST OFFICE BUILDING
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14302
(716) 284-8976

409 SOUTH UNION STREET
SPENCERPORT, NY 14558
(716) 282-4777

May 12, 1995

The Honorable Alan Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon:

As you know, I am deeply concerned about Wednesday's addition of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to the list of sites now being considered for closure or realignment in 1995.

Closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station would deal a crippling blow to the economy of Western New York. With an annual payroll in excess of \$56 million, and an overall economic impact of \$125 million, Niagara Falls ARS is the second largest employer in Niagara County, and the fifth largest employer in Western New York. Unlike several other communities whose Air Reserve Stations have been targeted for possible closure, Niagara County has little else to sustain it, in the absence of the Air Base. These economic factors must figure prominently in your deliberations.

The military value of the base has been demonstrated continually. In recent years, the 914th Airlift Wing has been deployed to trouble spots around the world; in the Persian Gulf War, the 914th had a 100% mission accomplishment record, carrying 10,000 tons of cargo and setting a record for consecutive on-time takeoffs. The 914th sent the first Reserve-force aircraft to land at Kuwait City airport after it was secured by the Marines. The unit also has shown its mettle in recent deployments to Bosnia, Somalia, Rwanda, Haiti, Kurdistan, and Panama. Last year, the Air Force gave the 914th an operational effectiveness rating of "excellent," its highest rating.

In addition to the economic and military value of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, several factors ought also to be considered as the Commission evaluates the relative merits of each facility.

- **Geography.** Four of the six C-130 facilities facing closure are in close proximity (less than 100 miles) to another C-130 base which is also on the BCRC list. In these instances, the Commission should strongly consider

Hon. Alan Dixon
Page 2

consolidating the operations of two such bases into a single facility. Most Reservists from the closed facility would still be within reasonable commuting distance of the consolidated facility. No such consolidation would be possible at the Niagara Falls ARS; closure of the base would simply leave hundreds of Reservists stranded, hundreds of miles from the nearest alternative base.

- **Community Support.** Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station has broad support that spans the entire community, from business and political leaders to average citizens. Western New Yorkers are united in their support for the base, and unequivocal about their desire to keep it open. Their views should be taken into account. Likewise, the Commission should strongly consider the views of communities in which there is broad public support for closing a facility. Indeed, I understand that one of the sites on the list, namely the Reserve Unit based at O'Hare Airport in Chicago, was proposed to be closed in 1993 by the community itself because it needed more airport capacity for civilian uses.
- **State Impact.** New York State has already been hard hit by the Base Closure and Realignment process; the only two active duty Air Force bases in New York -- Griffis and Plattsburgh -- were closed by the BCRC, leaving Niagara Falls ARS as the only Air Force installation in the state.
- **Timing.** The sudden addition of Niagara Falls and other Air Reserve Stations to the base closure list leaves them very little time to prepare their case for remaining open. This places them at a disadvantage, compared to other facilities which were given greater notice of their possible closure.

In the coming days, as the Commission begins to review the relevant data on the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, I am confident that these and other factors will clearly demonstrate the value of this facility, and provide an unimpeachable rationale for keeping it open.

My warmest regards for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



JOHN J. SARALCE
Member of Congress

Copies to the Members of the Commission

MAY-18-95 THU 15:58

BEE GROUP NEWSPAPERS

FAX NO. 7166338601

P.01

ID:

MAY 18 '95 10:55 No.005 P.02

JACK QUINN

30TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

**TRANSITION AND
INSTRUCTION**

Subcommittee

**ARMY TRANSITION AND
INSTRUCTION**

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Washington, DC 20315-5000

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Subcommittee

**ARMY TRANSITION AND
INSTRUCTION**

JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-3230

May 16, 1995

WASHINGTON OFFICE
227 Capitol Hill
Washington, DC 20515
Office: 227 3306
Fax: 227 3347

MAIN OFFICE
401 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14203-2199
Office: 847 5273
Fax: 847 5273

SATI (SITE OFFICE)
1490 Jefferson Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 847 4010

Mr. Alan Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street
Suite 1425
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I am writing this letter to express my great concern over the possible realignment or closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

The Niagara Falls Air Base Station serves as a major employer in the Western New York area. Closing of this base would have a very detrimental effect on the Western New York economy.

Besides the economic effect, the 914th Airlift Wing, which is based at Niagara Falls, has been an exceptional asset to the United States Air Force. Recently, the 914th received an "excellent" rating from the Air Force Reserve for operational readiness. The 914th and the base have recently served our nation well, at a moments notice, when called to serve in both the Persian Gulf and Haiti.

I am confident that an objective analysis of the base and the region will result in a conclusion that this base should remain open to continue to serve our nation in the future as well as it has in the past.

Thank you in advanced for your cooperation and consideration.

Very truly yours,

Jack Quinn
Member of Congress

JQ:rd

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671		# of pages > /
To NEIL NOLF	From GEO MERSE	
Co.	Co.	
Dept.	Phone # 632-4710	
Fax # 236-2333	Fax # 623-8601	



JOSEPH T. PILLITTERE
138th District

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIRMAN
Committee on Tourism, Arts and
Sports Development

COMMITTEES
Agriculture
Commerce
Environmental Conservation
Energy

May 15, 1995

Hon. Alan Dixon, Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, Va. 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon,

We, the members of the Western New York Delegation, seek your support and assistance in retaining the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. We stand united with local and federal legislators and Gov. George Pataki in demonstrating the vital economic and military role the Niagara Falls ARS plays in New York State.

The facts supporting our position speak for themselves. The Niagara Falls ARS employs 800 civilians and 2,500 military personnel generating over \$125 million in salaries and services. The base is the second largest employer in Niagara County and the fifth largest employer in Western New York. Closing the base will save federal taxpayers \$10.4 million but it will exact a terrible economic toll on the Niagara community and the greater Western New York region.

It is disturbing to think that the Defense Department would shut down a base that it invested \$30 million in the past year. We believe that the department did so because it supported its continued operation. Indeed, airbase personnel have been called on repeatedly to serve missions around the world and have been recognized by the Air Force for its quality in performing those duties. Certainly a base achieving such recognition should remain open and active.

Published reports indicate that four of the six C-130 facilities under consideration for closing are within 100 miles of each other. Consolidation within those bases is far easier than the Niagara Falls ARS which is hundreds of miles from the nearest alternative base. What logic is there in closing a base that would strand hundreds of reservists hundreds of miles away from the next closest facility.

New York State has shouldered sufficient burden in previous base closings. The Niagara Falls ARS is the last Air Force installation in New York. The base admirably serves the community it is stationed in and the nation at large. We request your support in our effort to keep the Niagara Falls ARS open and urge your joining us in ensuring its future.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Joseph T. Pillittere
John M. Valke

Richard Anderson

Henry L. Voth

William T. Steinhilber

Thomas McKenney

Sandra Lee Wright
S. H.

George T. Mazzanti
Francis J. Parkman

Paul A. My
John L.

May L. Fulk
Arthur O. Eve

Daniel Seaman
Rudolf Kene

NIAGARA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

FROM: Commerce, Transportation, & Tourism DATE: 5/16/95 RESOLUTION NO. 238-95
Committee, et al.

APPROVED AS TO FORM
 NIAGARA CO. ATTORNEY

COMMITTEE ACTION

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Approved: Ayes _____ Noes 0
 Rejected: Ayes _____ Noes _____
 Referred: _____

By _____

OPPOSITION TO AIR BASE CLOSURE

WHEREAS, the direct impact of Niagara Falls Air Force Base on the economy of Niagara County is at least \$125 million annually, and

WHEREAS, the indirect impact of Niagara Falls Air Force Base on Niagara County and on the Niagara Frontier Region is even higher, and

WHEREAS, Niagara Falls Air Force Base is important to the operation of Air Force Reserve and Guard operations in the northeastern United States and especially in New York State because of its status as the only remaining Air Force Reserve Base in New York State, and

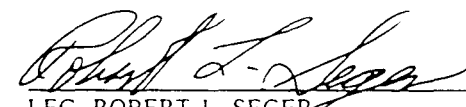
WHEREAS, New York State has not received its fair share of defense expenditures, being the third largest state in terms of population but ranking 47th in defense expenditures, and the closing of Niagara Falls Air Force Base would further widen that gap, now, therefore, be it


RESOLVED, that the Niagara County Legislature hereby strongly requests that the Air Force Base Closure Commission reverse its position and remove Niagara Falls Air Force Base from the list of bases being considered for closure, and be it further

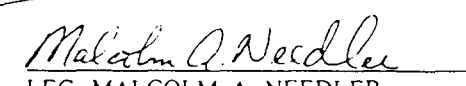
RESOLVED, that all citizens, both publicly and privately, are urged to take any and all actions appropriate to support the removal of Niagara Falls Air Force Base from the potential Base Closure List, and be it further

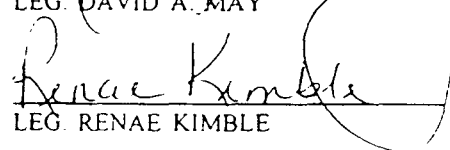
RESOLVED, that Congressman John LaFalce, Senator Alphonse D'Amato, Senator Patrick Moynihan, and all other members of the Western New York delegation to the United States Congress and all members of the Western New York delegation to the New York State Assembly and Senate are requested to take any and all actions necessary to cause the removal of Niagara Falls Air Force Base from the Base Closure List.


 COMMERCE, TRANSPORTATION, &
 TOURISM COMMITTEE

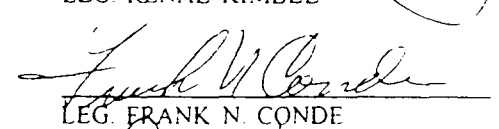

 LEG. ROBERT L. SEGER

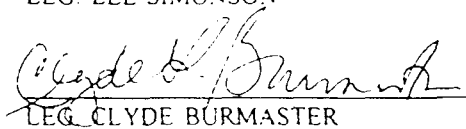

 LEG. DAVID A. MAY


 LEG. MALCOLM A. NEEDLER

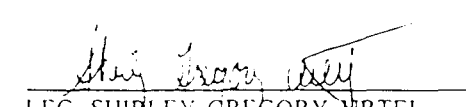

 LEG. RENAE KIMBLE

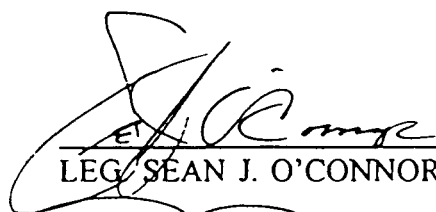
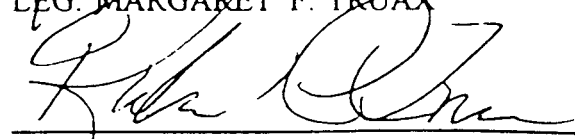

 LEG. LEE SIMONSON

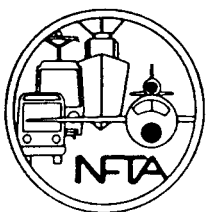

 LEG. FRANK N. CONDE


 LEG. CLYDE BURMASTER


 LEG. DENNIS F. VIRTUOSO


 LEG. SHIRLEY GREGORY URTEL


LEG. SEAN J. O'CONNOR
LEG. ROBERT R. VILLANI
LEG. WAYNE A. LENHART
LEG. ARTHUR F. KROENING
LEG. JOHN TYLEC
LEG. MARGARET F. TRUAX
LEG. RICHARD C. CORICA
LEG. JOHN F. COLLINS
LEG. SANDRA L. SIBLEY
LEG. GERALD E. MEAL



NIAGARA FRONTIER TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
NIAGARA FALLS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

May 26, 1995

Hon. Sean J. O'Connor, Chairman
Niagara County Legislature
Court House
Lockport, New York 14094-2740

Dear Mr. O'Connor:

The Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, as owner and operator of Niagara Falls International Airport (NFIA) is greatly concerned that the 914th Reserve Airlift Wing which jointly uses airfield facilities at the Niagara Falls Airport with civilian and commercial aircraft operators, is under consideration for closure.

The NFTA and the 914th have had a long standing and mutually beneficial relationship. In exchange for unlimited use of the airfield facilities at NFIA, the 914th provides key services that benefit overall airport operations and economics. The services provided by the 914th include Airport Fire Safety and Rescue manpower and equipment, certain airfield maintenance including snow plowing of the main runway and assorted taxiways, maintenance of taxiway lighting systems north of the runway, maintenance of TACAN air navigational equipment, and providing weather observers 16 hours per day 7 days a week. The value of these services as presently provided exceeds 2 million dollars annually. Given historical and projected deficits at NFIA exceeding a million dollars annually the loss of these essential services to say the least are problematic and could overburden the NFTA's limited financial ability to maintain the existing service levels at Niagara Falls International Airport.

Beyond the direct financial and operational impact, Niagara Falls International Airport is a FAA designated reliever airport for Greater Buffalo International Airport and as such provides critical aviation capacity for the total region. The services provided by the 914th at Niagara Falls are vital to the airports' ability to accommodate existing and future expanded aircraft operations. Elimination of these services could result in diminution of airport capacity and cause increased congestion at GBIA thereby limiting future expansion of regional aviation activities.

As you are aware, our business plan calls for significant capital investment in airport improvements as well as ambitious marketing goals. We have been meeting and working with Niagara County officials regularly to mutually target airport development opportunities that would benefit the airport as well as the

Hon. Sean O'Connor

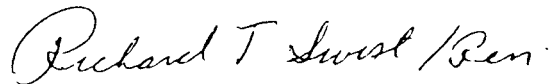
Page 2

May 26, 1995

greater Western New York region. The loss of the 914th including their contribution to the airport could set back these efforts.

Please pass my concern along to the Base Realignment and Closing Commission. If you need additional information please do not hesitate to call.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard T. Swist / Ren".

Richard T. Swist
Executive Director

RTS/ren/ml



James L. Barnett, Chairman
Western/Central New York Coalition of NAUS Chapters
8421 Buffalo Avenue, B1/A2
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

May 21, 1995

**NAUS STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE RETENTION OF NFARS
AS AN ACTIVE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE INSTALLATION**

The Western/Central New York Coalition of National Association For Uniformed Services (NAUS) Chapters strongly supports the activities of those individuals and groups who are currently working for the retention of Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS) as an active military installation.

NAUS is a non-partisan, non-profit military/veteran organization, which represents all grades, ranks, components and branches of the uniformed services, to include spouses and certain widows. NAUS is the only military/veteran organization that represents the entire military family, including active duty personnel, reserves, national guard, and veterans. The goals of NAUS are the maintenance of a strong, combat-ready U.S. military establishment, more than adequately capable of carrying out the far-flung national interests of the United States. Secondary NAUS goals of NAUS are protecting the hard-earned benefits of veterans and retirees. For the past four years, NAUS has directly participated in a large number of base closures, and NAUS has prepared a "Base Closure Action Kit." The Coalition has amended and updated the NAUS publication to make it more applicable to local conditions. Although the Kit was prepared with larger military bases in mind, it may prove useful in the NFARS case. Copies of the Kit will soon be sent to key groups and individuals working on the NFARS situation.

The Western/Central New York Coalition of NAUS Chapters represents the interests of all NAUS members; as well as all active duty personnel, reservists, guardsmen, and veterans living, and/or, serving within the six congressional districts of western and central New York. These include the 25th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, and 31st C.D.'s. While generally following NAUS goals, the Coalition under certain conditions, such as the NFARS case, goes on its own, and operates without too much support from NAUS.

Having founded the NFARS Retiree Activities Office in mid-1989, and having served as its Director until mid-1993, the writer was very well acquainted with the capabilities of the 914th Airlift Group in carrying out both national and international assignments. I also became very aware of the attitudes and the expectations of local military retirees. I was well aware that the 914th AG was rated "outstanding" time after time, following periodic Air Force and Reserve Command inspections. In addition, the 914th was recognized as one of the premier units that participated in the Desert Shield/Desert Storm operations, October 1990-April 1991. It would appear that the past record, and the extreme combat readiness of the 914th AG would be one of the strong points in the campaign to save the Base.

Canadian Consulate General



Consulat Général du Canada

May 24, 1995

Mr. John LaFalce
U.S. Congressman
Federal Building
111 West Huron Street
Buffalo, New York 14202

MAY 25 1995

Dear Congressman:

I have been closely following the work of the U.S. Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission since it took the decision early this month to examine the option of withdrawing the Air Force Reserve's 914th Airlift Wing from Niagara Falls, New York.

It is not, of course, my place to comment on an internal political decision of the Government of the United States, but I write at the request of Mayor Jacob Palillo to remind you of the unique contribution the 914th has made to the very close international relationships along our shared border. The military relationship, including training and logistics cooperation as NORAD and NATO allies, will of course already be appreciated by the Board and your office.

You may not, however, be as familiar with the community contribution that the 914th has made to this special Canada-United States cross-border relationship.

I personally know the men and women of the 914th and have been involved in several events in which the 914th made significant contributions to the broader bilateral and multilateral agenda that our countries share and to our unique friendship. I sight some examples:

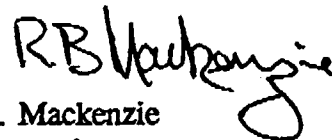
- Logistical support for the 1993 World University Games; hosted by Buffalo with 2 of the 12 events (rowing and womens soccer) held in Canada at St. Catharines and Hamilton
- Support for the Air Shows of the Buffalo-Fort Erie Friendship Festivals; July 1 to 4
- Logistical support for the visit of Canadian General Lewis D. McKenzie at his appearance before the Buffalo Council on World Affairs in January of 1993 to discuss the UN's Bosnia peacekeeping mandate
- Logistical support for Western New York community leaders' visit to Ottawa in September of 1994 to receive briefings on NORAD and Peacekeeping and a Foreign Affairs briefing on Canada-United States relations.

.../2

Page 2
May 24, 1995

You, of course, know what a great domestic asset the 914th has been. I hope you don't mind me saying what great Ambassadors they have also been. If I can be of any assistance in your efforts, please count on me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R.B. Mackenzie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name "Mackenzie" being more prominent.

Robert B. Mackenzie
Consul General

cc: Niagara Falls Mayor Jacob Palillo

Mayor Wayne Thomson



City Hall
4310 Queen Street
Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6K5
(905) 356-7521 Ext. 4202
Fax: (905) 374-3557

May 25, 1995

Senator Alfonse D'Amato
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20210

Dear Senator:

As Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada I wish to write to express my concern relative to the potential closure to the Niagara Air Base. As you are aware, the United States and Canada have the largest unguarded border in the world and years of mutual friendship and respect. Our nations are linked by more than geography. We are linked socially, we are linked economically through NAFTA and other trade agreements, as well as historically. Further, we are linked militarily through NATO, NORAD and other defence and international commitments. And, as much as our two nations are linked, so too are the cities of Niagara Falls, New York, USA and our own City.

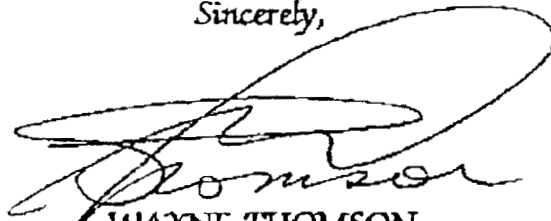
Economically and militarily, the Niagara Falls Air Base is strategically placed as an important key to that linkage. Not only is this base important economically to our nation, it is important militarily also. You see Senator, this base is not simply within a 500 mile radius of many important U.S. cities including Washington, DC; New York City, Albany, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Baltimore; it is also within a 500 mile radius of many of our key Canadian population centres. Toronto and Ottawa are within 350 miles of the base. Within 90 miles of this base there are 7 million people, many of them Canadian citizens. Further, Montreal is within a 550 mile radius, as are U.S. cities such as Chicago, Indianapolis and Cincinnati. As I stated, for both military and economic reasons we would hope that you would keep this base open.

- Page 2 -

I have been excited to see many of the positive changes internationally these past few years, however as a Mayor whose city is so linked to the United States I hope that the U.S. will not now act to disarm itself in this rare period of tranquility. Changes are occurring; our own nation has seen heightened political instability even as your nation has seen a rise in terrorism on your soil. Together, both of our countries have seen the nature of our international commitments change greatly over this past decade. I understand that the Niagara Air Base has played a vital role in meeting those new commitments from Desert Storm, to Somalia and elsewhere; participated in by both of our countries.

Again, as Mayor of this City so closely linked with Niagara Falls, New York, across this friendly and peaceful border, I request that the US government do everything possible to keep the Niagara Air Base in full operation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Thomson', with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

WAYNE THOMSON

Mayor

WT/so

EDMUND F. MAXWELL
414 U.S. Courthouse
Buffalo, New York 14202-3405

MAY 25 1995

TELEPHONE: 716-551-4231

May 24, 1995

Hon. John J. LaFalce, Congressman
Federal Building
111 West Huron
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: Niagara Falls Air Base

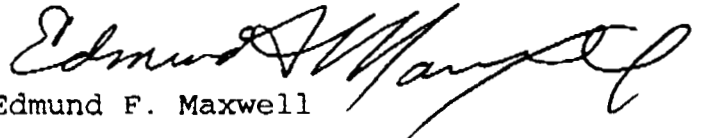
Dear Congressman LaFalce:

I have recently learned that the Niagara Falls Air Base, which houses the 107th Air Refueling Group (ANG) and the 914th Airlift Wing (Air Force Reserve), is being considered for closure.

I have had occasions over the last few years to have dealings with the personnel of both organizations, and as an Army Air Force veteran, have some knowledge of their activities and mission. While I appreciate that defense spending cutbacks are justified and necessary, I believe that it would be a disservice to the Niagara Frontier and to the country as a whole if the Base was closed. Not only have these organizations performed excellent work in a military sense in Panama, Bosnia and the Persian Gulf, but their humanitarian activities on behalf of the citizenry in this country have been outstanding.

I would request that every effort within your means be made to assure the continuation of these units at Niagara Falls.

Very truly yours,


Edmund F. Maxwell

EFM:anm



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Marshals Service

Western District of New York

129 U.S. Courthouse
68 Court Street
Buffalo, NY 14202
May 24, 1995

Congressman John J. LaFalce
Federal Building
111 West Huron St.
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Congressman LaFalce:

I am writing this letter to urge and encourage your support to keep the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base open. I know how busy you are and the demands being placed on you, however, having had the opportunity to personally meet many members of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Group and to become friends with Colonel Jerry Black, Commander of the 914th and Colonel James Burdick, of the 107th, I have come to realize that no other unit or base can possibly duplicate their mission.

As the United States Marshal for the Western District of New York, I am very aware of the goals of Vice President Gore under the "Reinvention of Government", this down-sizing of the military by closing even part of Niagara Falls could cause irreparable harm and effect National Security.

What I see most about the group of men and women who serve at Niagara Falls is a dedication to duty and a willingness to do more than "just a job". We should be proud of these individuals, they have served us well in the very recent past and now I think we as leaders should stand by them and keep this facility open for all our benefits.

You have my support and I encourage yours, should there be something I need to do, please ask. Thanks you for your time, call me.

Sincerely,

John P. McCaffrey
United States Marshal



NIAGARA COUNTY VOLUNTEER FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, INC.

May 22, 1995

Base Realignment and Closing Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Dear Commission Members:

The Officers and Members of the Niagara County Volunteer Firemen's Association are vigorously opposed to the closing of the Niagara Falls Air Base and the loss of the 914th Airlift Wing of the Air Force Reserve.

The closing would have a devastating impact on the Mutual Aid System of the Emergency Services of Niagara County. This would be especially true for the Communities in the immediate area of the Air Base.

The loss of the expertise of the Air Force Personnel and availability of their equipment would also have a dramatic economic effect on the Fire Companies, Emergency Medical Services and the Niagara County Hazardous Materials Response Team. This, at a time, when the taxpayers of the County are looking for relief from tax increases.

The Association prayerfully requests that the Members of this Commission look with favor on continuing the operation of the Niagara Falls Air Base and retaining the 914th Airlift Wing of the Air Force Reserve.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this request.

Yours truly,

Elmer Walter
Recording Secretary
4979 Tonawanda Creek Road
N. Tonawanda, N Y 14120

TOWN OF WHEATFIELD

NIAGARA COUNTY

2800 CHURCH ROAD
NORTH TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14120

OFFICE: (716) 694-6680
FAX: (716) 692-4462
RESIDENCE: (716) 692-7708



TERRY W. KUEHN
SUPERVISOR

May 12, 1995

President
Hon. Bill Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I was appalled to read in the thursday, May 11th, Niagara Gazette that the Federal Government is considering the closure of the Niagara Falls Air Force Base. As you are aware, the loss of military and civilian personnel would be a devastating blow to the already sluggish economic conditions of Niagara and western New York. I realize the responsibility to down size military spending, but also I am very cognizant of the Niagara Falls Base and the importance of its location for the protection of our border to the north. Given the unstable situation in countries like China and North Korea, the closing of Niagara would leave our defenses to the north vulnerable.

Mr. President, any further deliberation of base closings must address as a priority the continued military readiness and the Government responsibility for the continued viability of the affected area. I feel if these two factors are given reasonable consideration, Niagara will continue as a military base of the highest priority.

Thank you for your time and support of the people of Wheatfield. I look forward to your positive support of this issue.

Yours truly,

Terry W. Kuehn
Supervisor
Town of Wheatfield

TOWN OF NIAGARA
COUNTY OF NIAGARA, STATE OF NEW YORK
NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y.

7105 LOCKPORT ROAD
NIAGARA FALLS, NEW YORK 14305



PHONE: 297-2150

Date: May 11, 1995

To: James A. Sacco, Supervisor

From: Cindy L. Walsh, Town Clerk

Re: The closing of the Air Force Base at the Niagara Falls International Airport.

At a emergency Special Town of Niagara Town Board meeting conducted on the 11th day of May, 1995 at 4:30 p.m. the Town Board approved the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the decision has to be made within thirty 30 days of the closing of the Military facilities here in Niagara Falls, New York, and

WHEREAS, there are going to be 2000 employees in jeopardy of employment along with \$54,000,000 in lost salaries which will have a negative impact on the area. This does not include service contracts and other spin-off types of services which will also have a negative impact on the area, and

WHEREAS, this facility is the second largest employer in Niagara County, and

WHEREAS, this area of Western New York is already economically depressed, and

WHEREAS, this facility is strategically located as a defense facility within the Northeastern sector of the United States and has been very active in various military campaigns such as the Veteran War, Desert Storm, Bosnia as well as others.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Niagara Town Board goes on record opposing the closing of the military facility at the Niagara Falls International Airport.

cc: D. Moynihan
A. D'Amato
J. LaFalce
R. Villani

Stanley Klemp
Danny W. Skerbin
James A. Sacco
Leonard L. Westerman

TOWN OF CAMBRIA

TOWN HALL
4160 UPPER MOUNTAIN ROAD
SANBORN, NEW YORK 14132-9416

Telephone: (716) 433-7664
Fax: (716) 433-7164

24 May 1995

Sean J. O'Connor, Chairman
Niagara County Legislature
Niagara County Courthouse
Lockport, New York 14094-2740

Dear Mr O'Connor:



SUPERVISOR
Wright H. Ellis

COUNCILMAN
~~Calvin W. Hall~~
Clifford W. Demmin
George J. Bush
Herbert E. Kroening
Robert E. Blackman
TOWN CLERK
Robert L. McCollum

HIGHWAY SUP'T.
IMAGE COORDINATOR
Villard F. Antoncich
(716) 433-8829

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE
Amel S. Jowdy
Roger L. Devole

WATER/SEWER SUP'T.
BUILDING INSPECTOR
Amel S. Jowdy, Jr.
(716) 433-2468

ASSESSOR
Anthony J. DiChiara

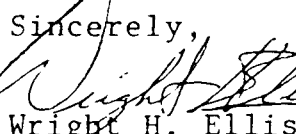
TAX COLLECTOR
Janella L. Kroening

I am writing on behalf of the Town of Cambria Town Board, stating our unanimous support for keeping the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station open. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station should be kept in operation because it provides a military presence and financial stability for Western New York.

Its importance is twofold: on one hand the 2500 reservists and 800 civilians at the Station provide mobile units for rapid forward deployment and support units for general U. S. force mobilization; and on the other hand, the payroll supporting those civilians and reservists provides approximately \$56,000,000 a year which is spent within the area. Closing the Station would decrease the County's sales tax revenues by an estimated 6% annually. Sales tax revenues provide significant financial support for the local government and their reduction would adversely affect the provision of municipal services.

Several Cambria families are employed at the Station and many residents are Reservists who drill at the Station. The impact on them would be severe. Additionally, the Station fire departments provide mutual aid services to the surrounding community and several training opportunities each year for local volunteer fire companies. Their expertise is invaluable.

The Cambria Town Board calls upon Governor George Pataki, Senators Daniel P. Moynihan and Alfonse D'Amato, and Congressman John J. LaFalce to use their good offices in support of retaining the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

Sincerely,

Wright H. Ellis
Supervisor

WHE/klb

cc: Governor Pataki Senator Moynihan

Motion by Supervisor Shirley R. Conner, seconded by Councilman John Kudla:

Niagara Falls Airbase must be retained because it provides national security and financial stability for Western New York.

Its importance is twofold: on one hand the 2500 reservists and 800 civilians at the base are a barrier to terrorism, especially at the electric power generating heart in Niagara Falls; and on the other hand the payroll supporting these civilians and reservists provides an estimated \$56,000,000 a year in payroll which is spent within the area.

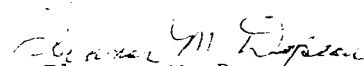
Any effort to close the Niagara Falls Airbase would have a far reaching negative effect, rippling out into the surrounding community and decreasing the county's sales tax revenues by an estimated 6% annually. Since sales tax is the life blood of financial support for the county, cities, villages, and towns in Niagara County, the area would become economically depressed.

The Town Board of the Town of Pendleton calls upon Governor George Pataki, Senators Daniel P. Moynihan and Alfonse D'Amato, Congressmen John J. LaFalce and William Paxon and Congresswoman Louise Slaughter to use their good offices in support of retaining the Niagara Falls Airbase.

Conner, yes; Kramer, yes; Brauer, yes; Kudla, yes; Smigiel, yes.

Motion adopted.

The above motion was adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Pendleton at a meeting held on May 17, 1995 at the Town Hall.


Eleanor M. Depeau
Town Clerk

NIAGARA FALLS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Niagara Falls, New York

Regular Board Meeting
May 18, 1995

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE CLOSING OF THE NIAGARA FALLS
RESERVE AIR BASE**

RECOMMENDATION:

A motion is recommended for the approval of the following resolution: Resolution Opposing the Closing of the Niagara Falls Reserve Air Base.

WHEREAS, The closing of the Niagara Falls Reserve Air Base will have an extremely serious impact on Niagara County; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Niagara Falls Board of Education opposes the closing of the Niagara Falls Reserve Air Base; and be it further

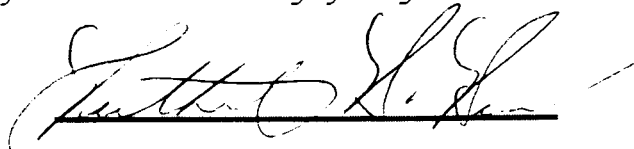
RESOLVED, That the Niagara Falls Board of Education supports the efforts of other legal governments and the County of Niagara in formally opposing the closing of the base; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Niagara County Legislature.

I, RUTHÉL D. DUMAS, Clerk of the Board of Education of the City School District of the City of Niagara Falls, New York, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the aforementioned resolution on Resolution Opposing the Closing of the Niagara Falls Reserve Air Base is a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by said Board of Education on the 18th day of May, 1995 and of the whole thereof, and that the said resolution remains in full force and effect.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed the seal of said School District and subscribed this certificate on this 23rd day of May, 1995.

Seal


Ruthel D. Dumas, District Clerk

MBT - FYI

City of Niagara Falls, New York



GUY TOM SOTTILE
Councilman

May 22, 1995

MAY 23 1995

City Hall (716) 286-4306
Residence (716) 285-1977

Honorable John J. LaFalce
United States Congressman
615 Main Street
Niagara Falls, New York 14301

Dear Congressman LaFalce:

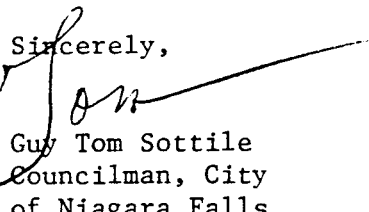
Many thanks for taking the leadership on the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. I am certain the efforts you make for our Niagara Falls Air Base will be an enormous help to the process. The one point that must be made is the critical strategic location on an international border and with the Niagara Power Authority Hydro Electric Plant. Also, the thirty million dollar improvement they are completing.

Guarding our borders is a key factor when we consider recent acts by terrorists. Cutting back is alright, but not for such an important base as the one in Niagara Falls is.

I know how diligently you exert all efforts on our behalf and we are most grateful.

Again, thank you for all of your help in this matter.

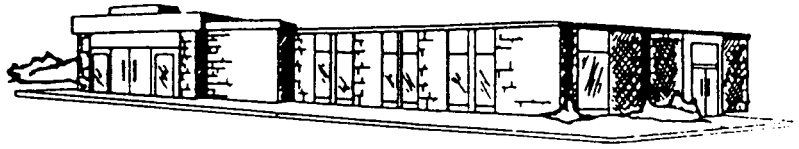
Sincerely,


Guy Tom Sottile
Councilman, City
of Niagara Falls

GTS:mw

Town of Lewiston

1375 RIDGE ROAD
LEWISTON, NEW YORK 14092
PHONE: (716) 754-8213-4
FAX: (716) 754-2821

**SUPERVISOR**

Thomas E. Sharp

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR

Merton S. Marshall

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Harrison L. Coppock
Michael J. Curtis
Paulette A. Glasgow
John C. Merino

TOWN CLERK

Lily Campbell Taddeo
Box 265
Model City, NY 14107

**CHIEF COMMISSIONER
OF POLICE**

Richard L. Person

CAPTAIN OF POLICE

Ronald R. Winkley

TOWN JUSTICES

Clark Brown
Box 330
Lewiston, NY 14092

Thomas J. Sheeran
Box 330
Lewiston, NY 14092

**HIGHWAY
SUPERINTENDENT**

Francis E. Mahar

**WATER & DRAINAGE
SUPERINTENDENT**

Steven L. Reiter

COUNSEL OF TOWN

Edward P. Jesella, Jr.
411 Center St.
Lewiston, NY 14092

ASSESSOR

Gene J. Virtuoso

**BUILDING INSPECTOR
PLANNING-ZONING**

Robert Coulter

RECEIVER OF TAXES

Jan Brandel Stephens

SENIOR SERVICES

754-2071

May 26, 1995

Senator Alfonse D'Amato
11 West Huron Street
Room 620
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear Senator D'Amato:

I have been asked to inform you that the Lewiston Town Board has gone on record as totally supportive of keeping the Niagara Falls Air Base open. Closure of the base could be devastating to the economy in this area.

We ask that you do all within your power to ensure that the base remains open.

Sincerely,
FOR THE LEWISTON TOWN BOARD:

Lily C. Taddeo
Lily C. Taddeo
Town Clerk

lct

cc: Richard Seekins ✓

THOMAS F. HIGGINS
SHERIFF

WILLIAM G. PAYNE
UNDERSHERIFF



SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES
TEN DELAWARE AVENUE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202 3999
(716) 858 7618
FAX (716) 858 7680

POLICE SERVICES
ONE SHERIFFS DRIVE
ORCHARD PARK, NEW YORK 14127
(716) 662 6150
FAX (716) 662 8477

POLICE EMERGENCY 911

CIVIL PROCESS
(716) 858 7606

HOLDING CENTER
(716) 858 7636
FAX (716) 858 7712

May 26, 1995

Honorable Sean O'Conner
Chairman
Niagara County Legislature
County Court House
Lockport, N.Y. 14094

Dear Chairman O'Conner:

I am writing in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Base and your efforts to keep it as a valuable asset to the Western New York community and our national defense.

I served in the US Marine Corps during the Korean War and know full well the value of a strong military reserve. That is why I, as an employer, support employee participation in the active reserves. I have many employees who are members in units stationed at the Niagara Falls Air Force Base, and have had the opportunity to visit the base and see first hand the professionalism and dedication of base personnel.

Western New York is a very patriotic and caring community. We not only depend on our national guard and reserve forces but we are strong supporters of the program. The reserve units in this area enjoy a large population of pro-military citizens that keep unit strength high and training opportunities abundant with few complaints about noise or disturbances.

The Niagara Falls Air Force Base is an excellent military installation. It has the runway and facilities to handle any aircraft in the world today. It also has limited civilian traffic which makes military flight training at any time of the day easier, and causes no disruption of civilian air traffic.

-2-

Chairman O'Conner

May 26, 1995

The Air Base is also a substantial economic asset to Western New York. It provides jobs and ancillary economic benefit for businesses that support base operations and cater to the activity around the base. The employment picture in New York State is one of the poorest in the country, and the loss of the base would have a devastatingly negative impact on this already depressed area.

I encourage you to aggressively continue your efforts to secure the future viability of Niagara Falls Air Force Base and my assistance in any way I can help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas F. Higgins".

THOMAS F. HIGGINS
SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

em

**RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR LENIHAN**

MAY 17 4 17 PM '95

**RE: OPPOSITION TO THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE NIAGARA
FALLS AIR FORCE BASE AND CALSPAN'S R.E.D.C.A.P FACILITY AND THE
OFFER OF ASSISTANCE FROM ERIE COUNTY ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT EXPERTS**

WHEREAS, the downsizing of government at all levels and in all departments must be a top priority for all elected officials in light of over burdened taxpayers and changing economic and employment trends, and

WHEREAS, the federal government's Defense Base Reduction and Closure Commission has recently announced a list of proposed base closings including the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base and the R.E.D.C.A.P. facility at Calspan in Cheektowaga, which is a simulated electronic warfare and missile defense system, and

WHEREAS, Calspan's R.E.D.C.A.P. facility is the only testing facility of its kind in the country that is equipped to allow our Air Force pilots to test themselves and their equipment against soviet style missile defense systems, with its primary focus on the pre-testing, during the development stage, of new air craft and equipment, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base is the only base of its kind in New York State and its closing would mean the loss of 2,500 reservists from across the Western New York area, who are not in commuting distance to another C-130 Base, 60% of whom are Erie County residents, and

WHEREAS, the federal government has invested \$70 million in the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base over the last ten years, \$25 in the last five years, in order to upgrade the facility and its equipment, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base also supports 800 civilian employees in addition to the 2,500 reservists, with an annual payroll of \$56 million dollars, which impacts greatly on the economy of not only Niagara but of Erie and the other six counties in the Western New York Region, and

WHEREAS, Erie County recognizes the importance of maintaining such a successful and respected Reserve Base here in the Western New York area and stand ready to offer professional economic development advice, impact statistics and support as local and federal officials put together their case for the continued operation of the Base, and

WHEREAS, the C-130 Reserve Unit has served our Country admirably as the only reserve unit to serve directly in the Persian Gulf with a 100 percent mission effectiveness as well as supporting all other major world-wide operations including everything from Hurricane Andrew to Bosnia to Haiti and support of the no-fly-zone in Northern Iraq, and

WHEREAS, while Calspan's R.E.D.C.A.P. facility in Cheektowaga, does not have the vast economic impact that the Niagara Falls Air Force Base has, employing about 50 permanent and 25 support employees with a budget of about \$900,000, it has a great strategic defense impact, because of the program's unique nature and advanced technological capabilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body goes on record in opposition to the closing of the Niagara Falls Air Force Base and Calspan's R.E.D.C.A.P. facility in Cheektowaga, and supports the efforts, with all the resources of the County's economic development professionals, of Congressman John LaFalce and Niagara County's local elected officials in preparing their case for the continued operation of the Air Force Base, and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to President Bill Clinton, the Defense Base Reduction and Closure Commission, the United States Congressional Delegation, Secretary of Defense William Perry, and the Niagara County Legislature.

Legislator Leonard R. Lenihan

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR SWANICK

**RE: ASKING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NOT TO CLOSE THE NIAGARA
FALLS AIR RESERVE BASE**

WHEREAS, the federal government currently operates the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base in Niagara Falls, on the international border between the United States and Canada, and

WHEREAS, last week, the federal government's Defense Base Reduction and Closure Commission agreed to add the Niagara Falls base to a list of military bases that may face closure, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls base currently employs between 750 to 800 civilian employees, and the base's annual Air Force payroll is in excess of \$56 million, and

WHEREAS, the closure of the Niagara Falls base would impact the local Niagara Falls and regional Western New York economies in a significantly negative manner, and

WHEREAS, closure of the Niagara Falls base is ill-advised, as the base has received in excess of \$25 million from the federal government for base improvements over the past five years, and

WHEREAS, the state of New York has already suffered from prior military base closings and downsizings, with the closure of the Plattsburgh Air Force Base, the closure of most of Griffiss Air Force Base, and with the scheduled closure of the Air Force's Laboratory in Rome, NY, and

WHEREAS, Western New York will learn of the Niagara Falls base's fate on June 22 of this year, when the commission will make its final recommendation as to base closures to President Clinton,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

- 2 -

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby puts itself on record in vehement opposition to the closure or downsizing of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body does hereby recognize that the closure of the aforementioned base will severely negatively impact the local economy of Niagara Falls and the regional economy of Western New York, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body does hereby call upon New York's United States Senators and the New York State Delegation to the United States House of Representatives to follow the lead of Congressman John LaFalce by fighting to save the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base from closure, and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to President Bill Clinton, United States Senators Alfonse M. D'Amato and Daniel P. Moynihan, to United States Representatives Amory Houghton, John LaFalce, Bill Paxon, and Jack Quinn, United States Defense Secretary William Perry, the Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the United States Senate, and to the Defense Base Reduction and Closure Commission.

CHARLES M. SWANICK

Fiscal Impact: Base closure impact would be severely negative.



TOWN OF AMHERST

ERIE COUNTY, NEW YORK

5583 MAIN STREET

WILLIAMSVILLE, NEW YORK 14221

FAX 716-631-7012

THOMAS J. AHERN
Supervisor
716-631-7032

SUSAN J. GRELICK
Town Clerk
716-631-7045

May 19, 1995

Councilmembers:

JAMES P. HAYES
MICHAEL G. McGUIRE
LYNN MILLANE, Deputy Supervisor
MARGARET G. SANTILLO
JANE S. WOODWARD
PENNY F. ZEPLOWITZ
716-631-7013

Gerald A. Black, Col, USAFR
Commander
914 AIRLIFT WING/CC
2720 Kirkbridge Drive
Niagara Falls IAP-ARS, NY 14304-5001

Dear Colonel Black:

As Supervisor of the Town of Amherst where a number of our residents are employed by, or serve at, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base, I want to go on public record as being strongly opposed to the closing of this outstanding facility.

The Niagara Falls Air Force Base is the only base of its kind in New York State. We would be losing 2500 reservists from across this entire area. They certainly are not in a commuting distance to another C-130 base, and we want to be able to keep that corps of outstanding ladies and gentlemen serving the Niagara Frontier. This region of Niagara County certainly needs the economic impact that the Niagara Falls Air Force Base demonstrates year after year. We want that economic help to continue. It has an impact on Erie County as well as the entire section of Niagara County. There are 800 civilian jobs in addition to the aforementioned 2500 reservists. We want to be able to keep those people in the positions that they so proudly serve.

Your leadership is to be commended and I will speak loudly that your leadership be continued. If you need any further help or assistance, please do not hesitate to call. I will always be at your service as you are to me. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

THOMAS J. AHERN
Supervisor

TJA:lw

cc: Congressman L. William Paxon
Congressman John J. LaFalce
Congressman Jack Quinn
Erie County Legislator Brian Rusk
Erie County Legislator William Pauly
Erie County Legislator Michael Ranzenhofer
Erie County Legislator Charles M. Swanick



Printed on
Recycled Paper



May 18, 1995

Congressman John J. LaFalce
Federal Building
Buffalo, NY 14202

Re: Possible Closing of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base

Dear Congressman LaFalce:

Please add the Amherst Industrial Development Agency among the list of supporters for keeping open the Air Reserve Base in Niagara Falls. The closing of this base would have a devastating effect on the entire Niagara region.

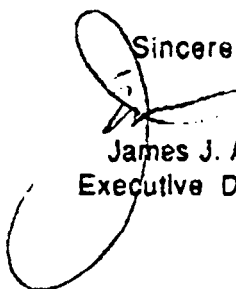
As you well know, Western New York has not been treated well by the many changes in our nation's economy over the past several decades. In spite of this, our community continues to fight back rather than give up and accept that our better days are behind us.

While we continue to work to transform our region into a major international player, our spirit may not be able to withstand another serious blow to our efforts. The closing of the Air Reserve base will be a significant setback to our work. Please do all that you can do to prevent the closing from occurring.

If there is anything that you can recommend that we do to keep the base open, please let us know. I can assure you that we will do whatever you suggest.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



James J. Allen
Executive Director

417 Wurlitzer Drive
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120

The Honorable Patrick Moynihan
U.S Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Moynihan:

We are writing on behalf of the Reserve Officer Association, Chapter 74, and the Air Force Sergeant's Association, Chapter 177, Niagara Falls IAP-ARS, New York, to request your assistance with the recent announcement that the 914th Airlift Wing will be re-evaluated by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRACC). There are a few points of interest that you, as our representative, need to be aware of.

As you know, there are eight items that make up the selection criteria. Of the eight, there are two of particular importance that need to be addressed in greater detail; specifically, items 6. and 7., which deal with the "Impacts" on the community.

As Niagara Falls' second largest employer, the loss of the follow on generation dollars in an already declining community would be catastrophic. This is the obvious affect. The other indirect loss to this community would be the base as a resource (people, knowledge, and facilities). We doubt there is another base in AFRES that has developed the partnering and commitment within the community like Niagara Falls ARS has.

The manufacturing base continues to erode, since the closure of the steel industries in the 1970's. Employment at local factories has dropped 54.35 percent in the last 37 years. For example, 194,300 people worked in manufacturing in January 1955. Today, only 88,700 hold industrial jobs. The manufacturing base of Buffalo and Niagara Falls has been cut by more than half. Manufacturing is in serious trouble in western New York and the last thing this region needs is to lose another major employer.

When the 914th started its journey down the road of continuous improvement, we never realized the depth and breadth of total quality. Attached is a listing (Atch 1) of all the companies in the greater Niagara and Buffalo communities that we have partnered with in some type of continuous improvement. We would like to highlight just a few of them at this time.

In 1993, the 914th joined forces with the UAW/FORD Motor Company's Buffalo Stamping Plant in developing a training program for their natural work team leaders. Utilizing our joint resources and knowledge, our team developed a training program that has been recognized nationwide as a tremendous success in helping team leaders set meaningful goals, conduct effective meetings and build efficient teams. This program was instrumental in helping the Stamping Plant maintain its Q1 certification status within Ford. The fruits of efforts were documented on a 16 minute tape (enclosed) that was presented at the national plant manager's conference in Anaheim, CA., in January 1995.

Three years ago, members of the 914th Airlift Wing, 107th ARG (tenant unit), Carborundum Company, and Niagara Falls School Board saw a need in the community to share and teach quality to improve the quality of life. As a result, the Greater Niagara Quality Council was formed. Our mailing list is approximately 500 individuals and companies in the Niagara and Buffalo communities. The airbase serves as the hub of this council; monthly meetings are held at the consolidated open mess from 3-4:30 pm. As a result of this reaching out to the community, the 914th has begun a mentoring program

with the management of Niagara County. Topics of our presentations cover subjects such as leadership, meeting dynamics, strategic and long range planning, team and group dynamics, problem solving and process improvement. Although relatively new to the county, there has been an overwhelming response for more sessions. The value to the county has been to help educate and coach their managers at a minimal cost to the taxpayers.

This summer, the 914th is working with the City Mission to refurbish inner city dwellings for the economically disadvantaged; the program's name is Habitat. Reservists, primarily from our Civil Engineering Squadron, are donating their time and knowledge to assist the City Mission of Buffalo and the community in accomplishing this task.

I could recite many more examples of our involvement in western New York and the Niagara community, but the point I wish to make is one of commitment and responsibility. We realize the responsibility we have in defending our nation and the commitment to follow it through, as shown by our involvement in Desert Storm/Desert Shield. However, we here at Niagara, also feel a responsibility to improve the quality of life for the residents of this community. Training for war is not our only source for being. Our mission involves global reach; providing airlift support throughout the world. To successfully accomplish this task you need commitment, responsibility, leadership and caring. If we don't care about our people and communities, we will be caring for them in the future. We choose to be the leaders in this community and with your *support and involvement* we will continue to do so.

We stand ready to assist you with any information and/or data you need to insure the 914th remains here in Niagara Falls. I thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Glatz, President
Reserve Officer Association, #74
Niagara Falls IAP-ARS, NY

Steven D. Roberts, President
Air Force Sergeant's Association, #177
Niagara Falls IAP-ARS, NY

Atch 1

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

865th MASH Reserve Unit
Army Corps of Engineers (Buffalo)
Better Business Bureau of Buffalo
Bob Gibbs Associates, South Yorkshire, England
Calspan, Inc.
Carborundum Co.
Carleton Tech
Delphi Corporation (Harrison Radiator)
Defense Contracting Management Office
General Motors Inc.
Jack Frost Food Brokers
Lockport Memorial Hospital
Moog, Inc.
Mobil Oil
Mt St Mary's Girl's School
Mt St Mary's Hospital
Mt View Nursing Home (Niagara County)
Nabisco, Inc.
Niagara County Department of Social Services
Niagara County Department of Public Health
Niagara Falls Board of Education
UPS

TRAINING AFFILIATIONS

Cummins Engine	Hyatt Regency
Corning Glass	Kodak, Inc.
Dunlap Tire	Marine Midland Bank
Fisher Price, Inc.	National Fuel
Ford Motor Co.	Niagara Mohawk
General Mills	Carborundum Co.
Gibraltar Steel, Inc.	Outokumpu American Brass
Gould Pump	Blair Miller Associates
Graphic Controls Corp.	

MEMBERSHIPS

American Society for Quality Control
Greater Niagara Quality Council
Western New York Trainers Forum

RELOCATION SERVICES FOR PROFESSIONALS, INC.

**36 HOPKINS ROAD
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221
1-800-252-2240 or (716)633-8300
FAX 716-633-8300**

May 23, 1995

John J. LaFalce
Federal Building
Buffalo, New York 14202
Dear John:

We support your continued work on saving our Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.

The 914 Airlift Wing did a super job in Dessert Storm, the members of their crew are an asset to this nation's defense and will have no where to train if they loose the base.

Our area has suffered economically, an additional loss of 50 million plus in payroll would add insult to injury.

Keep up the good work!

Kindest regards,


Keith Kader



RESIDENTIAL · COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE
SUBURBAN SPECIALISTS ☐ FINANCING ☐ INSURERS

Reply to ☐

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

38 HOPKINS RD., AT SHERIDAN DRIVE
WILLIAMSVILLE, NEW YORK 14231-0098

ANNE L. KADER, PRESIDENT

KEITH G. KADER, VICE PRESIDENT

716-634-0218

1-800-252-2240

FAX: 716-633-8300

Reply to ☒

—BOULEVARD OFFICE—

1590 NIAGARA FALLS BOULEVARD
TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14150

(716) 832-8900

Certified Relocation Professional · CRP
Senior Residential Appraiser · SRA
Certified Property Manager · CPM
Certified Marketing Management Broker · CRP
Certified Residential Specialist · CRS
Graduate Realtors Institute · GRI

May 23, 1995

John J. LaFalce
Federal Building
Buffalo, New York 14202

Dear John:

We support your continued work on saving our Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.

The 914 Airlift Wing did a super job in Desert Storm, the crew members are an asset to this nation's defense and will have no where to train if they loose the base.

Our area has suffered economically, an additional loss of 50 million plus in payroll would add insult to injury.

Keep up the good work!

Kindest regards,
METRO KADER REALTY, INC.

Diane Schaefer
Diane Schaefer
Assistant Vice President



EMPIRE STATE MORTGAGE FUNDING, INC.

MILTON G. KADER
President

ROSE BUFALINO
Mortgage Officer

MAY 25 1995

May 23, 1995

John J. LaFalce
Federal Building
Buffalo, New York 14202
Dear John:

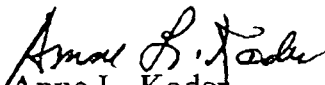
We support your continued work on saving our Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.

The 914 Airlift Wing did a super job in Dessert Storm, the members of their crew are an asset to this nation's defense and will have no where to train if they loose the base.

Our area has suffered economically, an additional loss of 50 million plus in payroll would add insult to injury.

Keep up the good work!

Kindest regards,


Anne L. Kader

6744 Rose Court
Niagara Falls, New York 14304-4508
May 19, 1995

Base Realignment and Closing Commission
1700 N. Moore Street
Arlington, Va. 22209

Re: Potential Closure—Niagara Falls Air
Reserve Base

Dear Sir/Madam:

The purpose of the correspondence is to solicit your support for the retention of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base based upon economical and military considerations.

This Base supports two of the most efficient and most activated Air Force Reserve & Air National Guard units in the Country. Their combined histories show involvement in the Korean, Pueblo and Cuban crisis, the Dominican Airlift, Vietnam and Desert Storm service in addition to others. This does not include the Air Force missions flown by reservists and guardsmen with the support of their employers. Our community is rightfully proud of our reserve units. Upon careful review you will find this base to be one of the most cost effective facilities in the Country. In addition to their operations this facility lends support to other units to effectively utilize the scarce defense dollar.

The employment situation in the Western New York area is of great concern because of the exodus of major companies and organizations. We are losing our younger and well educated people because of the lack of employment opportunities. High paying positions are giving way to minimum paying jobs.

The economic development of the Western New York area depends upon the availability of the Niagara Falls International Airport. Without the support of the Air Reserve Base the future of the airport is very doubtful. With the failure of the airport comes the potential of relegating this area to a "rust belt" future - more dismal than ever in the history of the Niagara Frontier. The demise of international capability at the Airport will discourage many prospective Canadian industries from relocating to this area. The Niagara Frontier is endowed with many institutions of higher learning, cultural opportunities and a technically competent work force. Examination will reveal that this area is one of the lowest cost areas in the United States.

I am fortunate to have had years of experience with both the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard units at Niagara. I now serve on the Town of Wheatfield Economic Development Committee and Chair the Town's Planning and Zoning Board and can speak from experience the need for preserving and promoting the retention of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.

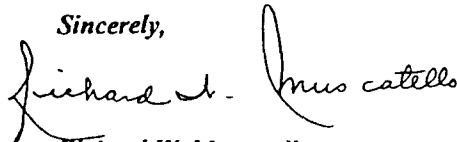
I am concerned that the Base officials have been placed at a disadvantage by finding out of the possibility of closure long after other locations. This means they have less time to prepare a comprehensive and fact filled presentation. I trust you will be tolerant of this situation.

Letter R. W. Muscatello, Dated May 19, 1995, Subj: Potential Closure—Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base, continued

The decision your Committee makes will have a profound effect on all the citizens of this area. Jobs, opportunities, taxes, devaluation of properties to name a few. The loss of jobs increases the number of citizens seeking welfare and unemployment monies which, you well know, increases the federal expenditures.

Trusting your careful and diligent efforts, I remain,

Sincerely,


Richard W. Muscatello

May 19, 1995

Dear Government Officials,

I love where I live in Western New York, but it breaks my heart how industry is shutting down one after the other and now you want to take away the oil that

which is such an important part of our economy. It is archaic to have the transport system and go. Please do not close the door

for the sake of our economy in Niagara County

Sincerely,
Betty J. Cook

Town Supervisor
Terry Kuchn
Wheatfield Town Hall
2800 Church Road
North Tonawanda, New York 14120

16 May 1995

Dear Mr. Kuchn:

I am opposed to the closing of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. I had started working at the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base three years ago. This closure will mean a loss of family income needed for our survival.

It absolutely appalls me that the base will be forced to close its doors. The Air Base is busy pretty much all year round. Incidentally, it is not easy finding another job in this area of Niagara Falls. If it weren't for this Reserve base, I would not be working.

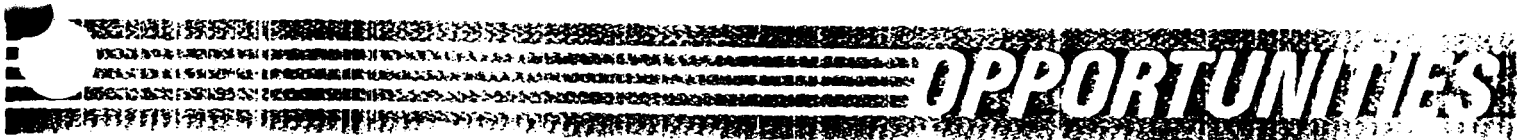
Too many people will be caught in the middle if approval of this closing is passed by Congress. Many current employees will have no where to go for a new job, and in some cases may even have to subsidize on public assistance. This obviously would be defeating to the Federal Government who sees public assistance as a burden to society. The working middle class is dwindling in the United States, and taking away more and more jobs is the symptom, the causes are budget cuts to make up for debts we did not as common citizens incur.

The Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base has become part of my life. If it does indeed close, a part of my life will be ripped away from me. Is there not some way this Base's doors could be kept open? Closing the doors to this Reserve Base will most certainly devastate the entire Wheatfield/Niagara Falls area. People will lose jobs, tourist income will drop, and a major part of this area's patriotic pride will die.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Frances M. Poturalski

Mrs. Frances M. Poturalski
7174 Winbert Drive
North Tonawanda, NY 14120



UNLIMITED OF NIAGARA

Chances and Chances for People of All Abilities

May 26, 1995

Mr. Sean J. O'Conner, Chairman
Niagara County Legislature
Courthouse
Lockport NY 14094-2740

Dear Mr. O'Conner:

As you gather information regarding the Niagara Falls Air Force base and the consequences on the community if it is ultimately closed, I would like to make you aware of Opportunities Unlimited of Niagara's long association with the base.

For over 12 years Opportunities Unlimited of Niagara has provided food service attendants to the Air Force personnel. Of the 35 people who provided these services, 12 are developmentally disabled. Also for more than seven years, we have been providing janitorial services, five days a week, at several of the buildings on the base. Of the 8 people who provide these services, 5 are developmentally disabled.

These consumers would be adversely affected if they were to lose their positions. Quite obviously we oppose the base being closed, and we are ready, willing and able to join in to convince the powers-to-be of this fact. If the base is closed, not only will the community be devastated, the lives of people with developmental disabilities, innocent bystanders, will be ruined.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED OF NIAGARA

Bruce A. Shields
President and Chief Executive Officer

BAS:mt

cc: Rick Seckins

